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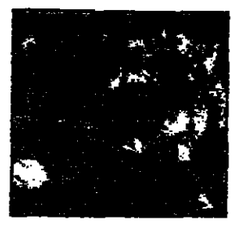
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Report: 4 Hizbullah dead

Arens: 'We need to win this war'

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

As the IDF wrapped up its debriefing into the deadly clash which killed three Paratroop officers early Tuesday, its warplanes and artillery struck Hizbullah targets in south Lebanon, killing four Hizbullah guerrillas, according to SLA sources reported by the Associated Press from Marjayoun.

In the meantime, military sources denied claims by Hizbullah in Beirut that it had observed the Paratrooper Reconnaissance Unit as it entered the security zone early Tuesday and had lain in wait to ambush them.

"This is totally false and just their imagination," said one senior officer.

OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Gaby Ashkenazy led the debriefing yesterday of the paratroopers who took part in the shootout.

Some of the soldiers said they had been devoting most of their attention to looking for explosive devices and this may have distracted them.

Soldiers in Lebanon are equipped with top-quality ordnance, including night vision goggles capable of detecting distant movement. None of the soldiers apparently detected the guerrillas.

At one point Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz participated in the debriefing, military sources said. Mofaz was escorting Defense Minister Moshe Arens, who received an account of the clash in which three IDF officers died and five soldiers were wounded, while the Hizbullah squad apparently escaped unharmed.

The paratroopers were on a raid north of the security zone to intercept Hizbullah guerrillas on their way south.

The IDF confirmed that one weapon was left behind during the evacuation of casualties. It was apparently this M-16 assault rifle, equipped with a special night scope, which Hizbullah showed off in Beirut along with a bloodied shirt and radio equipment.

"Hizbullah is learning and improving and we, too, are improving and learning and we need to win this war," Arens said following the visit to Northern Command.



IDF paratroopers grieve yesterday at the funeral in Moshav Ramot Naftali of Maj. Eitan Balahsan, commander of the Paratrooper Reconnaissance Unit, who was killed in Tuesday's clash. (Reuters)

Arens reiterated his long-standing opposition to any unilateral redeployment from south Lebanon.

"It's not my opinion that we should withdraw from there unilaterally and start gambling with the lives of our northern residents," Arens said, adding that he had not heard of any other opinion in the inner cabinet. "There are discussions, but an argument like this I haven't heard," Arens said.

In Lebanon, SLA militiamen discovered and dismantled three roadside bombs overnight near the village of Markaba. They had apparently been planted recently and are the type usually activated while being observed by Hizbullah guerrillas.

Markaba lies on a road frequently used by Israeli troops where two IDF soldiers were killed by a roadside bomb in November.

The air force, meanwhile, struck again at Hizbullah targets in the central sector of the security zone. Reports from Lebanon said two jets swooped down a valley and fired at least two air-to-surface missiles near Tallousa.

According to Lebanese security officials, the air raid came after Hizbullah guerrillas pounded an SLA outpost near Tallousa and Markaba. IDF and SLA artillery and tanks returned fire.

SLA sources told AP that four Hizbullah guerrillas were killed in the barrage and air raid.

But the IDF could not confirm the report. Hizbullah also did not confirm it had suffered any casualties, but it often waits weeks to announce its dead, IDF sources said.

Yesterday thousands of mourners attended the burial of Maj. Eitan Balahsan, the commander of the Paratroop Reconnaissance Unit, who was killed in Tuesday's clash.

He was buried on Moshav Ramot Naftali, where he was raised.

Balahsan was to have received a citation for being an outstanding officer from Mofaz on Independence Day.

The condition of four of the soldiers wounded in the clash improved yesterday, said doctors at Haifa's Rambam Hospital. The four were listed in satisfactory condition, and one is now due to be released.

In New York, Ambassador to the UN Dore Gold denied, in a letter circulated yesterday, that Israel had expanded the security zone, saying it had placed barbed wire on the outskirts of one village, Arnoun, because it was being used by Hizbullah.

Gold said the village was "being exploited by Hizbullah as a forward staging area for terrorist attacks against Israel" and this violated the 1996 Grapes of Wrath understandings.

He also said there should be "no illusions about the terrorist activity that Lebanon openly praises as a purported 'resistance.' " It meant "resistance by means of terror to the very existence of the State of Israel," Gold said.

He reiterated Israel's readiness, first announced last year, to implement all the provisions of a 1978 Security Council resolution calling for its withdrawal from southern Lebanon.

But until Lebanon cooperated with Israel to restore peace and security along their border, Israel "reserves the right to act in its own self-defense in accordance with international law," Gold said.

AP contributed to this report.

NRP considers offering Porat No. 5 slot

By NINA GILBERT and MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

Nahum Langenthal has reportedly offered to give up the No. 5 spot on the National Religious Party list he won earlier this week to veteran MK Hanan Porat.

Langenthal, a first-time candidate who belongs to the party's moderate camp, said last night the matter is still under discussion, and would not confirm or deny that he is willing to agree to such a move.

Party sources said the top six candidates had discussed the matter yesterday, and it was suggested that Langenthal move himself to the No. 6 slot, thereby pushing others down the list. It is unclear whether the No. 8 candidate, Gila Finkelstein, in a slot reserved for a woman, would also move down, or whether the central committee would agree to such a move.

After Porat, a longtime Greater Land of Israel champion, was pushed down to No. 11, the hawkish wing of the NRP was outraged, saying the party had moved to the left. On the other hand, the moderates declared victory, saying it is time to have a balanced Knesset list.

According to one source, Education Minister Yitzhak Levy, the leader of the hawkish camp, is spearheading the effort to get Porat moved higher on the list.

"It would have been better if the offer hadn't come," Porat said last night. "What is needed is for the religious Zionist camp to do some soul-searching."

Porat's supporters have warned they will leave the NRP for other parties if Porat is not moved into a higher position.

The NRP maneuvers follow warnings from leaders of the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria, and Gaza that the party could lose support unless Porat and MK Zvi Hendel are moved to more realistic spots. Hendel won the seventh slot, which according to recent polls will not get him elected to the Knesset.

The settlement leaders suggested that Porat could be forced to leave the party and join forces with the smaller right-wing parties – Tekuma, Moledet, and Herut – which are negotiating the establishment of a united front.

Tekuma yesterday called on Porat to join its ranks. "Tekuma is the natural alternative to the NRP" for Porat, said its leader, Beit El Mayor Uri Ariel. "Our door is open to him."

Porat could become Tekuma's No. 1, according to Ariel, who noted that the party has not yet picked its list.

Council director-general Aharon Domb returned from Paris in the afternoon and met with Levy shortly after landing. Earlier in the day, Domb sent a strong letter to Levy and Transport Minister Shaul Yahalom warning them that if the NRP does not change direction, it will lose support among its voters.

Domb stressed that the next government will be faced with important challenges that will affect the future of the settlements, and national camp followers will be faced with a difficult struggle as pressures, both internal and external, become more intense.

Meridor denies plan to join One Israel

By SARAH HONIG

MK Dan Meridor vehemently denied yesterday that he is contemplating leaving the new Center Party and joining the projected Labor-led One Israel bloc.

Sources close to Labor Party chairman Ehud Barak have been insisting for several days that such a deal was suggested to Meridor and he had agreed to discuss the offer with Barak at a meeting scheduled for Sunday.

Meridor spoke yesterday while on the campaign trail with Center Party leader Yitzhak Mordechai. The two toured the Arab sector in the North and this was the first time Meridor had joined Mordechai in his electioneering.

Meridor's absence from most of the Center's campaign efforts had been characterized as an indication of his growing frustration.

Meridor, who had long entertained his own prime ministerial ambitions, and left the Likud to start his own campaign for prime minister, reluctantly joined the Center Party and accepted Mordechai in the leadership. But he has since been described as disaffected. He was placed third on the Center's list.

This has led to Labor efforts to offer him a top spot in the One Israel framework. A number of Labor sources insisted last night that the offer had indeed been put to Meridor.

Meridor himself, though, stated that "there have been no contacts with Labor and I will under no circumstances join in any sort of an alliance with Labor."

Meridor, it was explained by a source close to him, "is still too much of a Revisionist to have anything to do with Labor."

Mordechai's Arab hosts yesterday pressed him to guarantee a safe slot on his list to an Arab candidate.

Mordechai and Meridor travelled in a van, decorated with posters of Mordechai, through Nazareth, Zarzir, and Shfaram.

After the tour, Meridor concluded that "Mordechai is likely to get many Arab votes, many more than Labor supposes. The Arab sector is not in Labor's pocket – nor in anyone else's pocket. Labor should not assume that most of the Arab votes will go to Barak in the prime ministerial contest."

2 soldiers injured in explosion

Two soldiers were seriously injured yesterday in an explosion at a base in the center of the country. The soldiers were hospitalized and their families were notified, the army said.

According to Itim, the soldiers suffered serious wounds to the hands and face.

Military sources said it appeared to be a work accident. The IDF has opened an investigation into the mishap.

Arieh O'Sullivan

Labor fails to clinch Lahiani deal

By SARAH HONIG

No deal was reached yesterday between the Labor Party and all those it wishes to recruit to its cause under the One Israel banner.

Intensive negotiations were not concluded with Bat Yam contractor Shlomi Lahiani, David Levy's Gesher, or Meimad.

The difficulty in all three cases was identical – the slots to be allotted on the One Israel bloc's list. All those who would receive reserved slots on the list, would push down Laborites, whose own party would be reduced to the rank of a component in the new bloc, albeit the major one.

Labor's negotiators had begun the intensive round of bargaining resolved that no more than three or four slots in the first 30 would be reserved for outsiders. However, all of Labor's would-be partners have far greater ambitions.

Lahiani summed up his position last night, when he declared that "no one is doing anyone a favor."

He spoke at a gathering of several hundred supporters in a Bat Yam wedding hall, where he launched his new "movement" – Dor Hadash (a new generation).

To qualify for entry into the One Israel framework, Lahiani, who narrowly failed to win the Bat Yam mayoralty last November, must show that he heads a faction of sorts. So he went through the motions of setting one up in an hour-long gathering, which drew a disappointing turnout and ended as soon as he finished his speech.

Labor Party chairman Ehud Barak had initially offered Lahiani the 11th slot. This, however, raised an uproar in Labor, where veteran politicians were about to be pushed back for a total unknown whose actual potential to bring in thousands of new voters cannot be proven.

Barak, therefore, amended his original proposal and told Lahiani that he will only get the 34th slot. The two met at party headquarters in Tel Aviv. The meeting ended inconclusively and the sides agreed only to tell reporters that "things will be worked out."

Lahiani expressed confidence that he will join One Israel but his rank will have to be determined "only when the negotiations finish sometime next week."

Barak, who was supposed to attend the birth of Lahiani's new political entity, significantly stayed away.

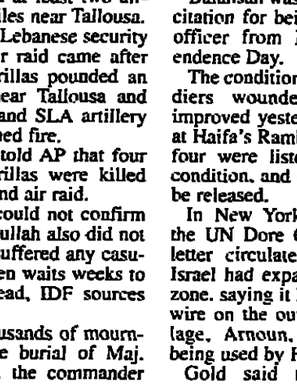
At this point, the Labor line is that Lahiani will prove his worth if he can bring enough votes to elect himself to the 34th slot. Currently Labor has 34 Knesset seats, but the expectations are that both large parties will lose seats.

Barak also met with Levy, who was told that he is assured of One Israel's third slot, but that he could only get one more slot for another Gesher member. Levy insists on two more slots in the top 30.

A possible deal would involve giving MK Yehuda Lankri a relatively high slot and fitting Levy's brother Maxim somewhat lower on the list, with the understanding that after the elections Lankri would resign his Knesset seat and would be appointed ambassador, preferably to France.

If this works out, Barak could claim that he sacrificed only two slots for Gesher, while Levy could claim that he had secured three.

The hitch, according to Levy, is that Barak cannot guarantee an ambassadorship for Lankri. "What if you don't win?" Levy is reported to have asked Barak pointedly. He therefore said that he would not be able to guarantee that Lankri would relinquish his Knesset seat immediately after the elections.



Shlomi Lahiani (Mati Milstein/Israel Sun)

In addition, Levy was not happy with what was offered Maxim and is demanding a higher slot.

Meimad negotiators, who also met with Barak, want two safe slots and a firm promise for "an executive post," which is taken to mean a cabinet portfolio. Labor Party sources report that Meimad demanded Education.

So far Barak and the other Labor negotiators have told their interlocutors that they have little choice but to accept Labor's conditions, because the polls indicate that none of them stands any choice of crossing the Knesset threshold.

This led Tzali Reshef, now in 30th place, to "question the wisdom of taking on outsiders whose ability to increase our Knesset representation is doubtful, considering that none of them could get himself elected. We should ask them to run on their own, win actual Knesset seats, and then form alliances with us."

He and other backbenchers and lower-ranking Knesset candidates met yesterday to formulate a joint policy on opposing the One Israel scheme. MK Eitan Cabel (28th) charged that "Barak has lost all sense of proportion. The criterion as to whether Lahiani can save Labor is whether or not he can fill a Bat Yam wedding hall? How absurd can you get?"

Erekat blasts legalization of Arutz 7

By BEN LYNFIELD

Leading Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat yesterday blasted the Knesset's decision to legalize Arutz 7, the settlers' pirate radio station, terming it a blow to reconciliation between Israelis and Palestinians.

"This station does nothing except incite against the peace process, the Palestinian Authority, and the Palestinians. The decision reflects an ugly step against reconciliation," he said.

He added that the move came just days in advance of a scheduled meeting in Washington of an American-Israeli-Palestinian committee against incitement.

Erekat said that the committee is due to discuss a proposal to have Israeli journalists write articles for Palestinian newspapers and vice versa.

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Government to fight pirate stations, Page 4

NEWS
in brief

Israeli guard accidentally wounded in Amman

An Israeli security guard in the embassy in Jordan was injured yesterday after being hit by a stray bullet, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said. "We have an injured person at the embassy in Amman. It was an accident. He was taken to hospital," said spokesman Effi Ben-Matityahu.

Israel Radio said that an Israeli surgeon was taken to Amman to treat the guard. A ministry official said the guard was injured after an embassy employee accidentally fired a bullet during a routine drill. A security source said the guard's condition was severe but stable.

"It was a mistake... a miserable accident," an Israeli diplomat in Amman said. He said the incident took place around 9 p.m. *Reuters*

US, British warplanes attack targets in Iraq

US and British warplanes attacked targets on the outskirts of Baghdad, the Iraqi armed forces said last night. The Iraqi Information Ministry accused the warplanes of flying north some 20 kilometers beyond the "no-fly" zone, which the Western allies patrol over southern Iraq. The US military said its planes had attacked Iraqi air defense sites at a town on the edge of the "no-fly" zone, south of Baghdad. Neither the Iraqi armed forces nor the Information Ministry gave precise numbers of casualties and it was not possible to confirm the reports independently. *AP*

Sheetrit tackles wage agreements first

New Finance Minister Meir Sheetrit said yesterday that the first, and most important, issue he will deal with is the wage agreement between the Treasury and the Histadrut for 1998-2000. He held several discussions on the subject yesterday, including one with his director-general who was in charge of the negotiations last year. The budget director warned him the agreement had far-reaching implications. *Itim*

Brazilian predicted attack in Argentina

Argentine investigators have asked Brazil to find out how a man it is holding on false document charges was able to predict a 1994 bombing which killed 86 people in the Jewish community center in Buenos Aires. In a document obtained by Reuters yesterday, investigating Judge Juan Jose Galeano asked Brazil's Supreme Court to establish how Wilson Dos Santos knew of the attack, and whether he was linked to the Brazilian secret service. Dos Santos presented himself at Argentine, Israeli and Brazilian consulates in Italy in the weeks before the bombing of the AMIA center in July 1994 and told skeptical officials that an anti-Jewish attack was being planned in Argentina. *Reuters*

IDF to issue special ID to combat soldiers

The IDF has decided to issue a "Combat Card" to all soldiers serving in combat units. The cards will be handed out on Independence Day and will entitle combat soldiers to benefits and discounts. While the exact benefits have yet to be finalized, they are expected to include discounts at films, restaurants, and shops as well as priority for government loans and grants. *Arieh O'Sullivan*

Attorney-general meets with Shas kabbalist

Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein met Monday with Shas kabbalist Rabbi David Batzri, said Batzri's son, Yitzhak, in an Army Radio interview yesterday.

Yitzhak Batzri said he heard Rubinstein was making a condolence call at a colleague's home near his father's yeshiva in Jerusalem, and persuaded him to come and meet him. Rubinstein agreed, and conversed with the kabbalist for close to an hour about recent tensions between the religious and secular. *Itim*

Thousands of Kurds march peacefully to honor Berlin dead

By ERIC TRUMP

BERLIN (AP) – Watched over by a massive police deployment, thousands of demonstrators marched peacefully through Berlin yesterday to honor three young Kurds killed a week ago during protests over the capture of Kurdish rebel leader Abdullah Ocalan.

About 8,500 people followed two silver hearses decorated with flowers and carrying the coffins of Sema Alp, 18; Ahmet Acac, 24; and Mustafa Kurt, 29, all from Berlin.

They were shot February 17 by Israeli security men while trying to storm the Israeli Consulate – reportedly in response to rumors that Israeli agents had helped Turkey trace the rebel leader to Kenya, where he was arrested on February 15.

Israel has denied any involvement in Ocalan's capture, but many of the marchers chanted "Israel – terrorist" as they moved through snowy central Berlin carrying poster-sized pictures of the three victims and of Ocalan.

"The murderers have to be judged," read one poster. "Each of us is an Ocalan," read another. Many called for Ocalan to be released, and attacked the US and Germany for supporting Turkey.

Many people carried red roses as they walked, accompanied by traditional music from sound trucks. Kurdish groups from around Germany displayed their banners.

"The abduction of Ocalan has brought Kurds closer together," said Mohammed Ghazi, an Iranian Kurd who came to Berlin from Hamburg.

About 3,500 police were deployed to prevent violence, and organizers also called on marchers to remain peaceful. Police said 47 people were detained, mostly for displaying symbols of Ocalan's Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK), which is banned in Germany, or for carrying sticks or other potential weapons.

At one point, occupants of an apartment house in the heavily Turkish neighborhood tossed something onto the passing crowd and a few marchers responded by throwing stones and rushing the building. But police blocked them from entering and the demonstrators eventually rejoined the parade.

The march ended peacefully after about four hours.

Berlin officials had banned all demonstrations last weekend, fearing violence, but agreed to allow the funeral march to proceed.

"I understand that many Kurds and friends of Kurds, who can't be automatically classified as extremist or prone to violence, wish to publicly express their sorrow over the death of their countrymen," said Berlin's Interior Minister Eckart Werthebach.

The bodies of the three killed were to be flown to Turkey for burial today. Some 29 other Kurds involved in the storming of the consulate face charges including causing bodily harm.

Despite the wave of violence that spread over German cities last week following Ocalan's arrest, federal chief prosecutor Kay Nehm refused yesterday to reclassify the PKK from criminal to terrorist organization. Nehm said there is no evidence that the arsons and hostage-takings were centrally directed.

Douglas Davis adds from London:

About 150 PKK supporters staged a two-hour demonstration near the Israeli Embassy in London yesterday.

The demonstration was timed to mark the burial of two of the three PKK followers who were shot dead while attempting to storm the Israeli consulate in Berlin.

The heightened British security presence prevented the main body of demonstrators from coming to within 150 meters of the embassy, although a five-person deputation was allowed to approach the gates of the embassy and lay a wreath.

Syria scorns PM's demand on Lebanon attacks

DAMASCUS (Reuters) – Syria's press yesterday poured scorn on a call by Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu urging Damascus to stop attacks by Hizbullah fighters on IDF troops in south Lebanon.

The *Tishreen* daily said fighting the Israeli occupation was "a legitimate action" and advised Netanyahu to pull out his forces from Lebanon "to ensure real security for Israel."

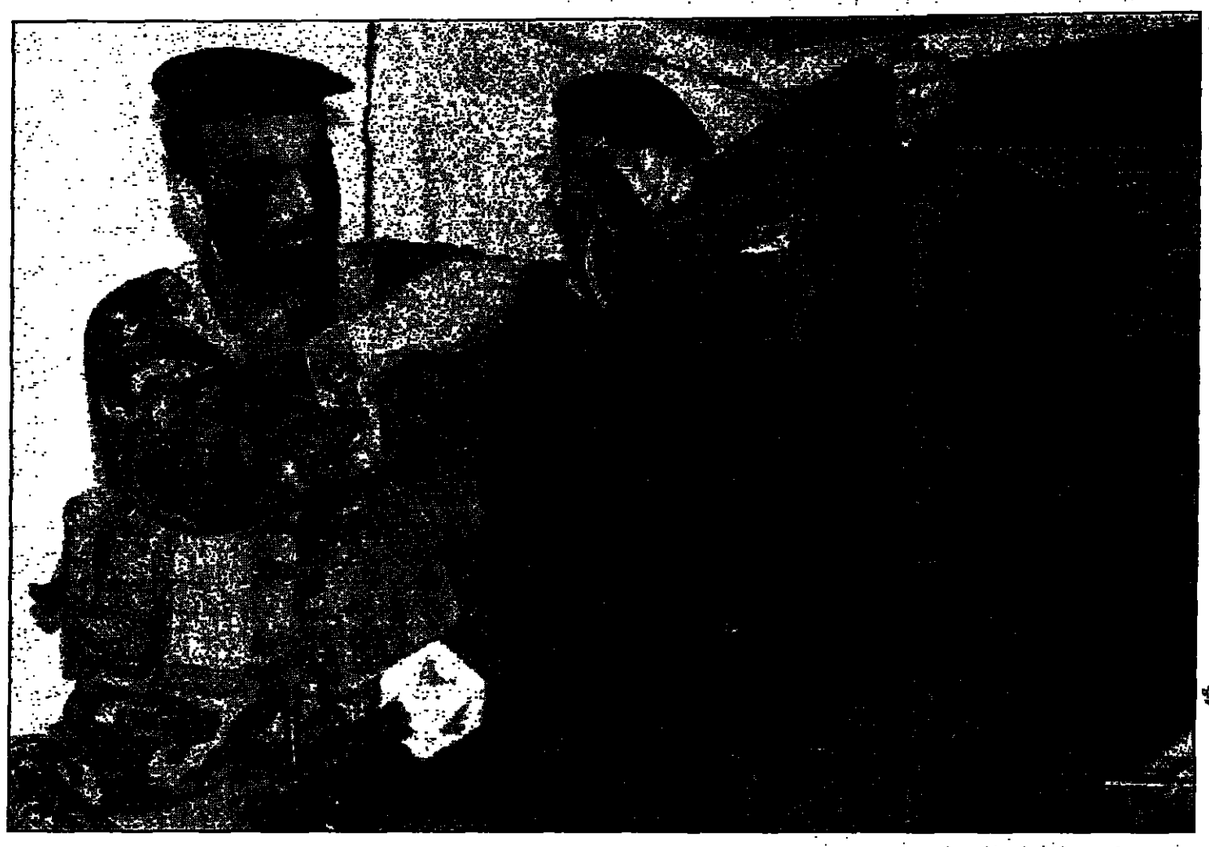
Syria, the main power broker in Lebanon with some 35,000 troops, "will not submit to occupation and will use all its resources to liberate" the Golan Heights as well as south Lebanon, it said.

"Israel has no choice either today or tomorrow except to withdraw unconditionally from south Lebanon and the Golan and to commit itself to a just and comprehensive peace," *Tishreen* said.

"It is possible for Israel to reach an honorable solution through serious talks with Syria and Lebanon." Three soldiers were killed and five wounded in clashes with Hizbullah on Monday.

Speaking to reporters Tuesday, Netanyahu said: "It's clear that if Syria wanted to stop these attacks it has the power to do so. We expect them to curtail aggression against Israel." Israel would withdraw if it could be sure that the Lebanese army would take control, he said.

But *Tishreen* said: "If Israel wants to withdraw from south Lebanon the way is open for that. Nobody will block its move...All Lebanese and Arabs will welcome such a withdrawal."



Hizbullah gunmen, their faces deliberately obscured with mud, proudly display a bloody IDF shirt on Tuesday in a cave near the Lebanese village of Masghara. The shirt was captured in the clash which left three IDF Paratroop officers dead. (AP)

Report: Mossad working closely with Turkey

By DOUGLAS DAVIS

LONDON – Reports in London, to be published today, claim that the Mossad has significantly expanded its intelligence base in Turkey as a result of exceptionally close cooperation between Jerusalem and Ankara.

Intelligence cooperation between the Mossad and its Turkish equivalent, MIT, was enshrined in a 12-clause agreement that was signed during a 1993 visit to Israel by then-Turkish foreign minister Hikmat Chetin.

Soon after, according to the London-based newsletter *Foreign Report*, a large Mossad operation was established in Turkey, with Mossad agents based in both Istanbul and Ankara.

This was not the first time that the Mossad had operated in Turkey, noted the newsletter, but it was the first time that it had received full cooperation.

So good was the cooperation, it continued, that the Mossad expanded its presence by opening branches in Turkey of two departments located in Tel Aviv.

They were "Tevel," which handles cooperation with friendly foreign organizations, and "Tzomet," which is responsible for recruiting Arab agents.

According to the newsletter, Israeli anti-terrorism experts were asked to help the Turks block their border with Iraq to prevent penetration by PKK terrorists.

Mossad officers worked with MIT and gave their Turkish colleagues raw information about the PKK, it says: "Suddenly, it was much easier for the Mossad to infiltrate Iran and Syria."

The newsletter concedes it has no information that the Mossad tipped off MIT about PKK leader Abdullah Ocalan's presence in Kenya, but, despite the denial by Mossad head Efraim Halevy, it asserted that "the level of probability must be high."

"We have been told," it added, "that during the odyssey leading up to Ocalan's capture, Mossad agents had at times been tailing him."

Germany offers dialogue about Gypsy slave workers

BONN (AP) – Responding to a threat of new lawsuits against German firms, the government said yesterday it will open a dialogue with Gypsy representatives about reparations for Nazi-era slave laborers.

Germany's Sinti and Roma, as Gypsies are known here, are complaining that they have not been consulted as government and industry set up a fund to compensate people forced to work by the Nazis. Part of the aim is to settle US lawsuits against German companies.

Romani Rose, head of the Central Council of German Sinti and Roma, said Tuesday his group would seek to join pending class-action lawsuits in the US on behalf of Gypsy victims, unless it is included in the fund's planned board of trustees.

He indicated concern that the government is giving precedence to Jewish claims. In reply, spokeswoman Charima Reinhardt said that "the government will establish a working-level contact" with the council. She refused to elaborate.

Twelve German companies, including major banks, pharmaceutical and engineering firms, agreed with Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder last week to launch the fund by September 1. About half a million Gypsies from all over Europe died in the Holocaust.

Report: King Abdullah has curtailed former crown prince Hassan's political role

By DOUGLAS DAVIS

LONDON – Jordanian King Abdullah II is understood to have restricted the duties of Prince Hassan to chairing the national Higher Council for Science and Technology, apparently shutting the door to any political ambitions the former heir-apparent might have harbored.

In a report from Amman Tuesday, the London-based Saudi daily *Al-Hayat* said the decision was communicated in a recent letter from Abdullah to Hassan soon after the new king announced the reshuffle of senior military personnel, his first major executive act since assuming the throne on February 7.

In the letter – addressed to "Dear Uncle" – Abdullah asked Hassan to devote his efforts to the Higher Council for Science and Technology, using his wisdom and knowledge to improve its performance.

According to the London-based paper, this has "sealed the political future" of Hassan, dashing expectations among those close to Hassan that he might be offered a role in foreign policy affairs or in final-status talks between Israel and the Palestinians.

Political circles in Amman were quoted as saying they regard the letter as tantamount to "the practical implementation of [the late King] Hussein's letter dismissing his brother as heir apparent." Hussein had rebuked Hassan for his conduct in state and family matters, but thanked him for his "achievements in the developmental, educational, intellectual, scientific, youth and environmental domains," assuring him that he would "remain close to me as a brother, expert, intellectual and holder of opinions."

Abdullah appeared to echo these sentiments when he praised Hassan's role in setting up a number of scientific institutions and think-tanks "with the support and guidance" of Hussein.

He also told his uncle he would like to meet him regularly to stay apprised of his activities and plans.

The paper said that while Hassan had been expected to be assigned major political tasks, Abdullah has now signalled that he is capable of taking charge of both the army and other institutions of the state.

Abdullah's letter to Hassan was sent after Crown Prince Hamza returned to Sandhurst military academy in Britain, where he had broken off his studies to attend his father's funeral and receive condolences with other members of the Hashemite royal family.

The Higher Council for Science and Technology, whose status was defined by law in 1987, is an umbrella organization for a number of scientific institutions and think tanks set up by Hassan while he was crown prince.

It oversees five major institutions, the largest of which is the Royal Scientific Society, which deals with technological, industrial and environmental issues and employs nearly 1,000 people. The other four are the National Center for the Development of Human Resources, the National Data Center, the Diplomatic Academy, and the National Center for Diabetes, Endocrine Glands and Hereditary Diseases.

In addition, Hassan is expected to continue chairing a number of other bodies not affiliated with the council, such as the Arab Youth Forum and the Arab Thought Forum, after the necessary changes are made to reflect the fact that he is now "Prince Hassan", not "The Crown Prince." Major changes are also anticipated in Hassan's office, where the current staff of around 70 is expected to be severely curtailed.

Monitor of PA media pulled from Washington meeting

By HILLEL KUTTLER

WASHINGTON – Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon quashed a public appearance here yesterday by an Israeli delegate who is participating in a trilateral committee investigating alleged Palestinian incitement.

Organizers of an event at a House of Representatives conference room explained Itamar Marcus' absence as his having to rush off to planning meetings in advance of today's trilateral gathering. But minutes earlier, Marcus, director of the Palestinian Media Watch, was seen chatting in the room with several event organizers and congressional aides.

Just before Marcus was to appear with five congressmen to discuss Palestinian anti-Israel and anti-semitic canards, an aide to ambassador Zalman Shoval told Marcus that Sharon had ordered him to skip the meeting.

Asked why Marcus was pulled from the program, an embassy official said: "Why? Because he has work to do here. He's part of an official delegation. The embassy found out he was doing several things in town and reported it back to the foreign ministry. When the foreign minister found out about this press conference [occurring] on the eve of the meeting, he made the determination that this should not happen, that this is something that can harm US-Israeli relations.

"We have a very serious meeting [today] and this meeting is a very damaging thing. We're supposed to be sitting and talking to the Americans and Palestinians [today] and we're not supposed to be going out publicly talking about it. So the ambassador and the embassy basically made sure this guy would not participate in the press conference." Netanyahu also took part in the decision on Marcus, the official added.

Marcus preferred not to discuss the matter, saying that "I don't want the issue of my not being there to be the issue."

Outside the room, Marcus laid out copies of his new report, "Promoting Hatred: The Systematic Use of Lies in the Palestinian Media," that includes a section on the Palestinian media since the signing of the Wye Memorandum. The report reprinted a February 18 crossword puzzle in *Al-Hayat Al-Jadida*, the PA's daily newspaper, with the clue being "Jewish center for eternalizing the Holocaust and the lies," and the answer, "Yad Vashem."

Republican congressman Michael Forbes, who spoke at the press conference, called the Palestinian record in complying with the Wye accord "a hoax," and said the PLO leadership continues talking about the destruction of Israel.

Steve Rothman, a Democrat, said the cases of Palestinian incitement "make me and other supporters of the peace process question just what the true intentions of the PA are."

The committee, established with the signing of the Wye Memorandum, has met seven times in the region but is convening in Washington for the first time. The Palestinian delegation is led by PA chairman Yasser Arafat's spokesman Marwan Kanafani. Among the American participants is the former president of the University of Notre Dame, Father Theodore Hesburgh.

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Elections '99

'A party of women' formed

By HEIDI J. GLEIT

Tired of being in the political back seat, a group of veteran feminist activists announced yesterday in Tel Aviv that a new party is running for the Knesset – Yitzug Shaveh (Equal Representation), the Women's Party.

Its leaders include Ofra Meyerson, who is perhaps better known as the left-wing wife of Tsomet chairman Rafael Eitan than for being a member of the Jerusalem city council.

Despite their different political stances, her husband supports her bid for the Knesset, Meyerson said.

Former Na'amat head Ofra Friedman explained that women first had tried to effect change via extra-parliamentary groups, and when that failed, unsuccessfully tried to work within the established parties. Though she originally opposed the idea of a women's party, Friedman said, it now seems like the only option.

Likud MK Naomi Blumenthal took exception to this, saying, "It's chutzpa to say that women in the parties... were unsuccessful in these issues.

"In the previous term and in this term [we have made progress] by forming the Knesset Committee on the Status of Women and in passing legislation beneficial to women. All of the issues, such as fighting violence against women, have moved forward."

While she thinks it is important that a women's party run and believes that there are not enough female MKs, Blumenthal said she doesn't "think it has a chance of succeeding. The issue isn't high enough on Israelis' list of priorities for such a party to succeed."

Labor MK Yael Dayan concurred, saying, "I'll be very happy if it improves women's situation in the Knesset... [but] single-issue parties usually don't succeed.

"I'm not for single-issue parties. I want a party that's for a Palestinian state and for economic and social affairs and for women.

"Of course, there's a need for equal representation," she added, wishing the women's party good luck.

In detailing Yitzug Shaveh's platform, Dr. Esther Hertzog, a sociology and anthropology professor who ran for the Knesset in the last election with a women's party that failed to pass the voting threshold, insisted it would not be a single-issue party. In addition to issues such as equality and reducing violence against women, the party supports the peace process and the Wye River Memorandum, advocates a withdrawal from the Golan, and opposes religious coercion, she said.

The party represents all women, she emphasized, and its leaders include Bella Freund, who is haredi; Shelly Alkiam, who is Sephardi; and Samia Shahada, who is a Christian Arab.

"Pnina's party is the party of a woman, our party is a party of women," Hertzog responded when asked about Pnina Rosenblum's party.

Rosenblum's party replied: "The voters will judge."



At yesterday's Tel Aviv press conference announcing the launching of Yitzug Shaveh, the Women's Party, are (from left) Esther Hertzog, Samia Shahada, Bella Freund, Tova Markovitch, Ofra Meyerson, and Adina Katz. (Yael Somekh/Israel Sun)

ELECTIONS

notebook

Katz seeks Katsav's ouster as Likud chief

Likud MK Yisrael Katz is demanding Tourism Minister Moshe Katsav be replaced as the head of the Likud election campaign headquarters and said yesterday he would not cooperate with him. Katz accused Katsav of bringing personal considerations into his work. There has been tension between Katz and Katsav since the Likud primary elections. Meanwhile, supporters of Science Minister Silvan Shalom are trying to pressure Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu into appointing him to a senior Cabinet position. The move came after Meir Sheetrit was appointed Finance Minister, a position Shalom had openly sought. Supporters in Beersheba, Shalom's hometown, have reportedly threatened to close down the local Likud branch until Shalom is given a better position. *Liat Collins*

Shas prepares religious campaign handouts

Shas is scheduled to hold a gathering of supporters in Jerusalem this afternoon gearing up for the election campaign. The party will not hand out amulets and charms this year, but plans to distribute material related to the Jewish holidays such as a Megillat Esther for Purim with a dedication from spiritual mentor Ovadia Yosef and party leader Aryeh Deri. The party list will be determined by the Council of Torah Sages at a later date. *Liat Collins*

Shinui and Yitzug Shaveh vie for party acronym

Shinui said yesterday it would submit to the elections board its opposition to the use by the women's party Yitzug Shaveh of the acronym, "yesh," since the two Hebrew letters involved are also Shinui's election symbol. Shinui said that it last used the symbol in the municipal elections in November, and that it could be misleading to voters to let another party use the same letters. Yitzug Shaveh means "equal representation." *Itim*

Re'em announces he will not run for Knesset

MK David Re'em announced last night that he would not run for a seat in the next Knesset. Re'em, who left the Likud for Ze'ev (Benny) Begin's Herut Party, said he decided to withdraw because he would not want to be seen as making personal use of a mandate taken from the Likud. He said he will endorse Begin, who had offered him the No. 3 spot in Herut, "because of his honesty."

He also noted that he could not stay in the Likud due to the leadership of Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, despite his loyalty to the party. On Tuesday, the House Committee approved the split of Begin, Michael Kleiner and Re'em from Likud.

Re'em said he would not renege on this decision, that he would be leaving politics and may go into business. A former mayor of Kiryat Ata, Re'em has been an MK since 1996. *Nina Gilbert*

Likud candidates in low slots weigh court appeal

By LIAT COLLINS

Four former MKs and one Likud candidate who feel they have been placed in unfairly low slots on the Likud list told Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu yesterday that should the internal Likud tribunal discussing their appeal not rule in their favor, they would take their case to district court.

The former MKs, Yossi Ahimeir, David Mena, Esther Salmovitz and Michael Ratzon, were joined by candidate Avi Ben-Avraham in their meeting with Netanyahu.

"All we are asking is for justice and for the placement on the lists to reflect the will of the Likud central committee members who elected us," said Ahimeir.

Their complaint focuses on the way the list was drawn up. According to the system used, if a sector or minority group representative got in higher than the reserved slot, the reserved slot was canceled and everyone further down the list moved up.

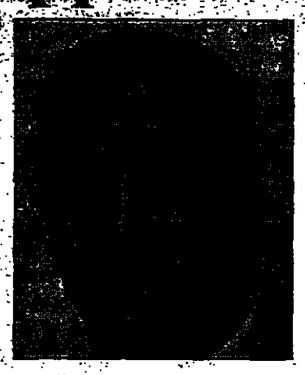
Ahimeir said only those below who were not running for reserved slots should have moved up and those running for reserved places should have remained in the predetermined slots. He said their appeal is based on the system as it appears in the Likud Party Rules.

Ahimeir noted that he came in the 30th slot with some 570 votes while student Liat Rabner came in the 29th position with some 170 votes because the woman's slot she was running on was moved up several times.

Ahimeir said he believes he should be in the 21st slot.

Mena and Ben-Avraham got the 27th and 28th positions respectively and Ratzon the 31st. Salmovitch did not make it into the top 35.

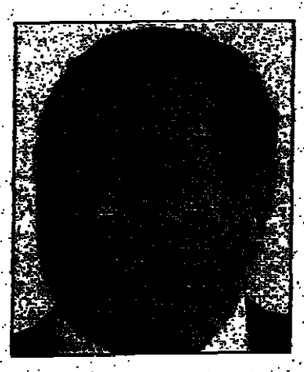
Ahimeir said Netanyahu listened to their complaint but did not comment on it and they are now waiting for the results of the Likud tribunal in the coming days.



Yossi Ahimeir (Isaac Harari)



Esther Salmovitz



David Mena (Scoop 80)

Yisrael Ba'aliya tries to widen its appeal

By HEIDI J. GLEIT

"You don't have to be Russian to vote Yisrael Ba'aliya," Yuli Edelstein said when the party opened its election campaign by introducing its candidates to the media in Tel Aviv's Beit Sokolov yesterday.

A special campaign staff has been formed to reach out to immigrants from English-speaking countries, native Israelis, and veteran Russians who have been here for 20 years or more, said Edelstein, who is heading the campaign and is number two on the party list.

These groups will support Yisrael Ba'aliya, party leader Natan Sharansky said, because helping new immigrants integrate into Israeli society will ultimately benefit them all.

A number of the issues the party advocates – affordable housing, eradicating unemployment, improving education – are issues that interest the entire population, he added.

Since winning seven seats in the 1996 elections, Yisrael Ba'aliya has brought about a "quiet revolution," Sharansky said, by working quietly behind the scenes to effect lasting changes instead of angling for headlines. For example, the image the Israeli public has of Russian immigrants has greatly improved, he said, and the newspapers are no longer full of headlines about Russian prostitutes and criminals.

The party, which aims to win 15 seats, is confident that its achievements will attract new voters in addition to convincing voters not to switch to one of the other immigrant parties.

"We guard the interests of new immigrants more than any other party," Edelstein said. However, he added, he expects Labor and Likud to put much more effort into attracting immigrants' votes than in the last election, when they didn't take Yisrael Ba'aliya seriously and were surprised by its success.



Yisrael Ba'aliya leader Natan Sharansky (right) speaks with party No. 3 MK Roman Bronfman at the party's campaign kick-off press conference in Tel Aviv's Beit Sokolov yesterday. (Yael Somekh/Israel Sun)

EREKAT

Continued from Page 1

"It is making peace with this government meaningless because the crux of peace is reconciliation between Palestinians and Israelis. You don't achieve that through such stations."

Arab MKs, meanwhile, strongly disputed portrayals of the Knesset vote by settler leaders as a victory for freedom of speech.

"I think we are giving them prizes for breaking the law," said Abdel Wahab Darawshe (Democratic Arab Party). "The government is taking a step towards the extremists and, in the long run, it will bring serious damage to Israeli society and the image of Israel."

Azmi Bishara (Hadash-Balad) said the law was made to solve one or two cases rather than the overall issue of pirate radio stations. He said that it would not legalize any of the more than 10 unlicensed stations run by Arabs, an assessment not shared by Darawshe.

"This is not a case of discrimination against Arabs," Bishara said. "It is a case of legalizing what was done illegally by radical right-wing activists who violated the law on a national scale."

Bishara said that Arutz 7 staffers began asking him for interviews in recent months, as the station came under increasing scrutiny. "I never accepted an interview, although they were trying to create a more balanced image for themselves."

It is with great pleasure and pride that we extend greetings to the distinguished members of British WIZO, who have assembled in Jerusalem, to participate in the British WIZO Triennial Conference. Through your partnership and dedication to the WIZO cause, you are making an outstanding contribution to the lives of thousands of Israelis.

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ON THE RECORD

What is needed is for the religious Zionist camp to do some soul-searching – NRP MK Hanan Porat.

Barak has lost all sense of proportion. The criterion as to whether Lahiani can save Labor is whether or not he can fill a Bat Yam wedding hall? How absurd can you get? – Labor MK Eitan Cabel.

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Communications Ministry to continue fight against pirate radio

By JUDY SIEGEL

Following the Knesset's legalization of Arutz 7, the Communications Ministry is not contemplating the dismantling of its unit to catch pirate radio operators.

"The opposite of true; we've even bought a well-equipped new van," ministry spokeswoman Ayala Bar said yesterday.

The process of legalizing the settlers' pirate station, whose directors are on trial for allegedly broadcasting illegally from the land, "is a long one," Bar said.

Zvi Hauser, chairman of the Broadcasting Regulatory Administration, said that there are more than 100 pirate radio stations around the country competing for a very small number of frequencies.

"As a civil servant, I am responsible for carrying out what the Knesset legislates," he said, adding that he couldn't predict the results of a High Court of Justice examination of Hendel's initiative.

He did say that the ministry amendment, which will allow cable TV stations to broadcast news programs, "was the major innovation, and we had been working on it for a year. One can't prevent TV stations from producing news shows, even though that was the law in effect until now."

Meanwhile, Dr. Daniel Tropper, chairman of the Gesher movement for bringing secular and religious Jews closer together, regretted yesterday's publication by his public relations man of a survey the movement sponsored last October to gauge public support for legalizing Arutz 7.

"I probably wouldn't have issued it at this time," he said, adding that he has come out publicly against the pirate radio station and criticized its "broadcasting incitement against Yitzhak Rabin."

The poll, conducted by Tel Aviv University Prof. Efi Ya'ar (formerly of Modi'in Ezrahi), found that 52.4 percent of the public supported legalizing Arutz 7, while 32.9% opposed it, and 14.7% did not respond. The representative sample of 504 Jewish adults (with a margin of error of ±4.5%) found that religious and traditional Jews were more likely to support legalization than secular Jews.

The survey, whose results were released by public relations man Yisrael Coben without consulting Tropper, was taken before the current trial of Arutz 7 heads began.

"What I noticed when I first saw the survey was that it showed the pubic is fundamentally fair, in that it thought the views expressed by the radio channel had the right to be voiced," Tropper said, but he added that "the timing" of publication was not wise, especially since Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein had strongly attacked the Knesset amendment and called it indefensible in the High Court.

Critics: Legalizing Arutz 7 encourages radio piracy

By DAN IZENBERG

There are more than 100 pirate radio stations operating in the country, including 40 haredi stations, most of which identify themselves with Shas, Yizhar Be'er, the director-general of Keshev, told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday.

Keshev is a non-profit watchdog organization that gathers information on individuals and institutions allegedly threatening democracy. It was established by a group of public figures including Yuval Rabin and Hebrew University philosophy professor and Peace Now activist Avishai Margalit.

Be'er said none of these stations qualify for state recognition according to the criteria of the law passed by the Knesset on Monday to legalize Arutz 7. However, he predicted that many of them would be granted licenses if the High Court of Justice rejects the petitions submitted earlier this week by three opposition MKs against the law. "It will be harder to prove that these stations were not broadcasting than it has been to prove that they were broadcasting," said Be'er.

Meanwhile, one of the petitioners, MK Amnon Rubinstein (Meretz), said that the MKs who voted for the law did not realize that by doing so, they would be legalizing several pirate Palestinian stations, including some that broadcast anti-Israel incitement.

Rubinstein blasted the Labor Party leadership for failing to show up for Monday's vote, in which the law was approved by 40 votes to 30. "They're afraid," said Rubinstein of the Labor Party leadership, singling out chairman Ehud Barak and former prime minister Shimon Peres. "They ran away from the battle."

Rubinstein and MK Haim Oron (Meretz) submitted one petition to the high court and MK Eitan Cabel (Labor), the other. They also asked the court for an interim injunction to halt the procedures for putting the law into effect until the court rules on their request to overrule the Knesset and nullify the law. Supreme Court Justice Dorit Beinish scheduled a hearing for the petitions next Monday.

In their petition, Rubinstein and Oron argued that the law violates the two constitutional laws, the Basic Law: Human Dignity and Freedom and the Basic Law: Freedom of Occupation. The law causes "extremely serious injury to the principle of equality and fair competition among those wishing to obtain a license from the state," the petitioners wrote.

They added: "Those who observed the law and refrained from broadcasting without legal permission find themselves losing out while the perennial transgressor gains a short cut, and receives permission without having to meet any criteria other than that of the length of time he has been breaking the law."

Peace Now protests at Goldstein's grave

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

Peace Now will hold a protest this morning at Baruch Goldstein's grave in Kiryat Arba, calling for the removal of the memorial there.

Peace Now spokeswoman Hagit Yaari, charged it was inconceivable that a law to this effect passed by the Knesset in June has not been enforced. In addition, the movement called on Defense Minister Moshe Arens to remove the shrine that was built in the memory of the "murderer Goldstein."

In October, in response to a petition by Goldstein's parents, the High Court of Justice postponed a decision to dismantle the memorial. At the same time, MK Ran Cohen (Meretz) petitioned the court asking that it order defense minister Yitzhak Mordechai to enforce the law preventing the setting up of tombstones on the graves of terrorists and to destroy the Goldstein memorial.

Cohen said he had asked Mordechai several times to act against the shrine, but that nothing had been done. He therefore felt obliged to turn to the court.

Three days ago, the High Court decided that a compromise should be reached on the petition submitted by Goldstein's parents, who want the gravesite to remain as is.



A group of Meretz youths on a sailboat protest yesterday alongside 'Eretz Hazvi,' the broadcast ship of the newly legalized Arutz 7 radio station, still anchored off Tel Aviv in international waters. The group's banners read: 'Meretz – Protecting Democracy.' (Mati Milstein/Israel Sun)

Meretz youths protest Arutz 7 at sea

By NINA GILBERT

A group of Meretz youths traveled an hour by boat to protest yesterday alongside the Arutz 7 radio broadcast ship, still anchored in international waters in the Mediterranean sea.

Bearing signs reading "Defending Democracy," the youths, who came in two sailboats, protested against the legalization of the pirate station Arutz 7 by the Knesset on Tuesday. They also called out that they would not allow the "rule of law to be ruled out."

An activist on the boat told Israel Radio that the boat trip "is just the beginning. We will take action. We have to show that we are not weaklings. We'll work like they did and make some balance here. If the Labor Party is not helping us, then who will take action?"

Meretz and Labor MKs have petitioned the High Court of Justice against the legalization of the station and other pirate stations which have been operating nationwide for five years.

Meanwhile, Meretz MK Ran Cohen yesterday blamed Labor Party chairman Ehud Barak for enabling the law to be passed. A large number of Labor MKs were absent from the vote. "If it wasn't bad enough that the right-wing settlers coalition is ruining the rule of law and giving a prize to a station that incites and rebels, the Labor Party and its leader have a hand in it," Cohen said.

Haredi youths arrested for threatening Barak

By AMY KLEIN

Two Mea She'arim teenagers have been arrested on suspicion they made phone calls to the police threatening they would shoot opposition leader Ehud Barak, Jerusalem police spokesman Shmuel Ben-Ruby said yesterday.

There were two calls made to the police. One of the youths allegedly made the first call on February 15, one day after the massive haredi demonstration in Jerusalem against the Supreme Court, and said: "The next bullet will be for Ehud Barak, period."

Two days later his friend allegedly called police and said: "Tell Barak his bodyguards won't help him at all because I'm going to throw a grenade."

Police traced the calls to a cellular phone and arrested the suspects, both 16, on Tuesday. The teenagers attend the "Or L'Yissacher" yeshiva in Mea She'arim. They confessed to the charges, Ben-Ruby said, but claimed they were just "prank calls."

Police have not made any arrests following complaints filed by the State Attorney's office last week. The complaints were about fliers distributed at the rally which listed the home addresses of State Attorney officials, reading "We are not afraid of the police: Just like we overcame the Supreme Court, we will get you too!"

MK a-Sanaa to visit Iraq

By NINA GILBERT

MK Taleb a-Sanaa (Democratic Arab Party) said yesterday that he and Ahmed Tibi, an adviser to PA Chairman Yasser Arafat, are planning to visit Iraq and its leader Saddam Hussein to express their solidarity with the country "in the face of American aggression."

A PA official in Iraq is working on coordinating the visit, and a-Sanaa said he hopes the trip will take place in the next few weeks.

MK Nissan Slomiansky (National Religious Party) has filed a complaint against a-Sanaa with Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein, saying the meeting would be a violation of the law banning contact with enemy countries.

A-Sanaa responded by saying that "enemy is an incorrect definition for Iraq," which he said has not attacked Israeli territory. "I have a right to make a connection with the people of Iraq as a citizen of Israel," he said. "I am not interested in what the extreme right has to say. It is against the peace process. These people live in the past and are hurting peace by establishing settlements," he added.

Disabled women must fail housewife test to win NII payments

The bed is unmade, the bread is unsliced, the potatoes are unpeeled, and Penina Muchtar is all apologies.

"I can't do any of these tasks," the distraught 47 year-old homemaker said, gesturing toward the little room that serves as a simulated kitchen, bedroom, and laundry room.

Medical records showing she can't bend, sit, or stand for very long are not enough to get her a disability pension.

Suffering after spinal surgery, she must fail a series of government-designed housewife tests to prove that she can no longer manage her home.

Women who have run the gauntlet of buckets, bed sheets and bottle washing call it humiliating, but the National Insurance Institute says there's no other way to test the claims.

The ordeal has prompted debate in the media about bureaucratic excesses.

The 18 household chores include making a cup of tea, slicing bread, washing and ironing laundry (including hand-washable delicates), sweeping and mopping the floor, and cleaning out closets.

Up to three officials watch closely, grading speed, confidence, and expertise. The results are assessed by a team of doctors and occupational therapists. Medical records and a physical examination are also used.

Leah Mann, who suffers from mental illness, took the test 20 years ago as a condition of receiving a monthly stipend of approximately NIS 1,600.

"They threw sand on the floor and asked me to sweep it up," she recalled. "It was as though I had to show how badly off I was to get some kind of security."

Officials at the NII defend the test as "progressive," saying that each year it compensates 12,500 non-working disabled married women, even though they don't contribute to the fund, as wage-earners do.

"We don't have a test reliable enough to replace this one," said disability department director Yehezkiel Bakal.

The test is only for women, since men cannot qualify for the homemaker disability fund. Other workers, male or female, who request disability insurance are evaluated on the basis of medical evaluations and do not take a practical test.

Gila Stopler, a lawyer for the Association for Civil Rights, said that made the test discriminatory.

"If a construction worker says he can't work, a doctor checks him out," she said. "No one tests him to see if he can put one brick on top of the other." Tests on specific household chores are necessary, according to the director of the Beit Levenstein Rehabilitation Center in Ra'anana, because housewives are not expected to switch jobs because of their disability.

"It's also a cognitive test, for example, if she knows how much oil to put in the frying pan, if she can do two tasks at once," said Haim Ring, a PhD.

A team of doctors, nurses and therapists at Beit Levenstein, alarmed by newspaper and radio criticism of the practice, were anxious to show that applicants are treated with respect and sensitivity.

"It's true, there are a lot of women who come to the kitchen and are against it," said Ofra Maron, a therapist who guides the women through the exam.

"I don't force anyone to do it," she said, but not doing it is "to her detriment, because if she does the test, then I have a way to check." Muchtar said that no one pressured her to perform the tasks and that she did not feel humiliated.

Stopler said it is the assumption behind the policy – that every unemployed married woman is a housewife – that is discriminatory.

Under the law, any married woman who has not worked for four years wishing to apply for a disability pension must do so as a housewife, regardless of her prior profession.

A married female pilot who had been unemployed for four years, for example, would have to apply for the pension on the basis of her inability to slice bread, rather than fly a plane.

Na'amat said it was asking the NII to change its policy and would go to court if necessary.

Bakal said he is aware that not all women who take the test are housewives, but said he is doing the best he can to compensate women under the limitations of a 1974 disability law.

"She may never have hung laundry," Bakal said. "It doesn't matter. The alternative is to give her nothing." (AP)

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Rabbis for Human Rights celebrates 10 years

By AMY KLEIN

Rabbis for Human Rights celebrated its 10th anniversary yesterday with a gathering at the Van Leer Insitute in Jerusalem to discuss "Human Rights in Israel and the Palestinian Authority – Legal, Political, and Religious aspects."

Labor MK Shevah Weiss and Bassem Eid, head of the Palestinian Human Rights Monitoring Group, were among the speakers.

Rabbi David Forman founded the organization during the intifada, because he felt rabbis were not condemning the violations of human rights and sometimes were justifying it. "I wanted to show the brighter and more enlightened voice for Jewish tradition – not just David the warrior, but the David who wrote Psalms," he said.

Nearly 90 rabbis in Israel are active in the organization, about a dozen of them Orthodox, said Forman, who received an award last night and currently sits on the board.

One of the organization's first projects was undertaken at the behest of Dedi Zucker, when he first formed B'tselem. He asked it to write to then defense minister Yitzhak Rabin about the deprivation of health care in the territories. "We signed it 'Rabbis for Human Rights,' and that took everyone by surprise and made the headlines," Forman said. "And an organization was on its way."

In the future, they plan to concentrate on protecting foreign workers and working within the educational system, Forman said.

Vatican: Israel, PA should share millennium profits

Any commercial benefits deriving from an anticipated mass pilgrimage to the Holy Land for the millennium should be equally divided between Israel and the Palestinians, the Vatican envoy to the region said yesterday.

Pope John Paul II recently delivered an exceptional Bull encouraging pilgrims to Rome for 2000 celebrations to continue on to the Holy Land.

Some three to four million pilgrims out of 10 million anticipated in Rome are expected to do so, and both Israel and the Palestinians are looking forward to an economic mini-boom.

Monsignor Pietro Sambi, addressing a meeting of the Interreligious Coordinating Council in Israel, said the Roman Catholic church has been coordinating with other churches on the anticipated influx.

"The churches hope that commercial benefits will be evenly distributed among all sectors of the community, both in Israel and in the Palestinian territories," Sambi said. "Such benefits should also reach the poor."

Palestinian Authority official Nabil Kassis, who is in charge of millennium festivities for Bethlehem, said yesterday that Bethlehem 2000 celebrations are helping "jump start" economic development for the Palestinian-run city.

The Vatican hosted a Bethlehem 2000 event last week, attended by PA Chairman Yasser Arafat, aimed at reinforcing the papal endorsement of Holy Land pilgrimage.

Arafat complained at the Bethlehem 2000 event that Israel was attempting to discourage pilgrims from staying overnight in Palestinian areas, depriving the Palestinians of hotel dollars. Vatican officials seemed sympathetic to his complaints.

Israel denied it is discouraging tourism to Palestinian areas, and complained that it had not been invited to attend the Bethlehem 2000 event.

In his Bull, the pope encouraged Catholics to celebrate 2000 as a way of seeking spiritual renewal and said it should be "celebrated not only in Rome, but also in the land which is rightly called 'Holy,' because it was there that Jesus was born and died." (AP)

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Rabbinate: Do not meet with Reform

By ELLI WOHLGELERNTER

The Netanya Religious Council failed to convene its scheduled meeting last night, after Sephardi Chief Rabbi Eliahu Bakshi-Doron and the city's chief rabbi ruled that the Orthodox council members did not have to sit with their Reform counterparts.

The meeting was called to order by council chairman Dov Dombrovitch, who told the nine of 26 members who attended that he had received orders from the Chief Rabbinate and Rabbi David Shloush, the city's chief rabbi, to cancel the meeting, because they do not allow them to sit with Reform and Conservative Jews.

Dombrovitch said that, although he is not a legal expert, he knows the law said one thing and the rabbinate another, and so for the time being there would be no meeting.

The maneuver was apparently aimed at preventing the Orthodox from sitting with Dr. Joyce Brenner, who 11 months ago became the first person in the country's history to take part in a meeting of a local religious council as a representative of the Reform movement.

"It's sort of sad, because we've been meeting for about a year and we thought in Netanya we had it under control," Brenner told *The Jerusalem Post* last night.

"Listen, this whole thing is very political, and there must be a lot of trade-offs. All the meetings I've been to, none of the ultra-Right came but the others did, and they talked with me, and they're friendly with me, and even today they were all supportive.

"The struggle is much bigger than just Reform and Conservative against the ultra-Right. I think it's really middle of the road observant against the ultra-Right, because the middle of the road is supporting the ability for all of us to sit together, because this is not a halachic body."

Brenner said the ruling came now after a year, because the council members were supposed to sign affidavits pledging loyalty to the State of Israel and to uphold the policies of the religious authorities.

"I came prepared to sign the oath of allegiance, but I wasn't going to unless they signed, and they didn't sign."

Earlier yesterday, Religious Affairs Minister Eli Suissa announced that he was planning on setting up new, smaller religious councils in those places where the gatherings have not convened.

Rabbi Uri Regev, director of the Reform movement's Religious Action Center, said "it is not going to be so simple for him to do it, because the law requires that he first appoint an investigative committee to see why the council does not function. In that investigative committee, by law there has to be a representative of the attorney-general, and I think the attorney-general is not going to be playing along with a policy that is clearly geared to bring about a contempt of court decision."



Students and recently discharged soldiers enter names of Holocaust victims on computers in Jerusalem yesterday. The first stage of the Yad Vashem project to computerize millions of names of victims collected in its archives over the years should be completed next month. (Isaac Harari)

Yad Vashem computerizes list of 3 million Nazi victims

By DINA KRAFT

Shai Blum leaned over a computer screen and carefully punched in a Holocaust victim's grim data – name, hometown in Poland, the death camp where he was killed.

Blum, 24, a student who lost dozens of relatives in the Holocaust, is participating in an ambitious project by Yad Vashem to computerize millions of names of victims collected over the years in its archives.

The project was unveiled to reporters yesterday.

At first, the list will be used to help track victims's unclaimed assets in Swiss banks. But in the long run, Yad Vashem hopes to establish a central data base, to be accessible through the Internet and to boost research, said chairman Avner Shalev.

"It is a breakthrough," Shalev said. "It will allow us to make another huge attempt – to collect more names and testimony from Jewish families from all over the world."

One of the centers of the operation is a former lecture hall in Jerusalem's Givat Shaul neighborhood. Recently, students and newly discharged soldiers operated dozens of computers arranged in long rows.

They punched in names and scanned Pages of Testimony that have been compiled on victims by surviving relatives and friends since the 1950s. Researchers fluent in 14 different languages looked over the operators' shoulders to make sure the information was entered correctly.

A similar operation has been set up in Beersheba.

At Yad Vashem, a crane designed especially for the project lowered black boxes stuffed with archive material into a ground floor scanning area.

The first stage of the computerization is to be completed by March. Yad Vashem hopes to hand a list of more than 3 million names to the Volcker Commission, which is tracking the victims' assets in Swiss banks. The $8 million cost of the project will be shared by the Swiss Bankers Association and the World Jewish Congress.

Shalev said he hopes that ultimately some 5 million names will be gathered and stored on computer.

"Everyone knows these are the last historical minutes. It's the conclusion of the century, the millennium, and we have to do our utmost to see how many names we can get," Shalev said.

Many of the names are gleaned from the Pages of Testimony, which include information provided by friends and relatives on the victims' place of birth, hometown, age and place of death.

The documents are often the only death certificates, since the Nazis did not record the names of those they killed.

The pages have been stored in Yad Vashem's Hall of Names, a dimly lit long room with black walls lined with shelves. For lack of a gravesite, relatives often come to the hall to chant a prayer for the dead.

Yad Vashem also plans to scan some 10,000 lists from its archives for more names. Lists would include, for example, the workers taken to a particular labor camp in a certain month.

The software used in the project can decipher different forms used by Yad Vashem over the years and distinguish between variant spellings of names and hometowns.

"It's a whole revolution," said Alexander Avraham, director of the Hall of Names. "Now a computer can retrieve a name by the name of the mother or date of birth, for example."

Eventually Yad Vashem hopes to make the list available on the Internet and on computer work stations at the memorial.

For Blum, the work was more than a part-time job.

His voice trembling, Blum said he will be looking for victims named Glickman or Gutwachs, the branches of his family killed at Auschwitz and Buchenwald.

"Look – I shake when I talk about it – so many of my family were wiped out," Blum said. "It's bittersweet to be part of this project, but to see so many names is not easy." (AP)

US to deport suspected PFLP terrorists

WASHINGTON (Reuters) – The US Supreme Court ruled yesterday the US government may deport seven Palestinians and a Kenyan linked to what the government has alleged is a Palestinian terrorist group.

The court, by an 8-1 vote, overturned a US appeals court ruling that blocked the government from deporting the eight aliens allegedly affiliated with the militant Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP).

The decision was a victory for the US Justice Department, which argued that a 1996 change in the immigration law meant that federal courts no longer had jurisdiction over the case involving the aliens known as the "LA [Los Angeles] 8."

The Justice Department said the law stripped the federal courts of the authority to review the immigrants' constitutional claims.

In a sweeping 21-page ruling that upholds the government's broad powers to deport aliens, Justice Antonin Scalia agreed with that argument.

"As a general matter – and assuredly in the context of claims such as those put forward in the present case – an alien unlawfully in this country has no constitutional right to assert selective enforcement as a defense against his deportation," Scalia wrote.

The Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) has sought to deport the eight since 1987, alleging that the PFLP is an international terrorist organization.

The federal government says the eight have violated a series of laws, including failing to maintain student status, working without authorization, and overstaying a visit.

A federal judge in Los Angles ruled against the government, concluding that the PFLP, a radical offshoot of the Palestine Liberation Organization, had been engaged in a wide range of lawful activities.

The judge blocked the deportations and the San Francisco-based appeals court upheld the decision, ruling that the mere act of raising money for a group such as the PFLP does not justify deportation unless the fund-raisers specifically intended to support terrorism.

The Supreme Court reversed the appeals court's decision.

NEWS *in brief*

Police probing Bardugo, Maxim Levy

An investigation into possible mismanagement of funds by Ya'acov Bardugo, when he headed the Union of Local Authorities' economic arm, and MK Maxim Levy (Gesher), when he was chairman of the ULA, continued yesterday, police said.

Bardugo and Levy were questioned under caution by the national fraud squad on Tuesday for several hours. Police refused to divulge details of the investigation or reveal whether the two would be summoned for further questioning.

A spokesman for Bardugo, currently director-general of Mifal Hapayis, failed to respond.

According to reports, police suspect that Bardugo received monetary favors. *Margot Dudkevitch*

Ukrainian Jewish union announced

Three influential Jewish institutions broke away from Ukraine's main Jewish union in Kiev on Tuesday, reflecting the sharp rivalries that divide one of the largest Jewish populations in the world.

The three groups said they would form a new alliance, the Jewish Confederation of Ukraine, to unite all of Ukraine's more than 300 Jewish communities and organizations.

About 500,000 Jews currently live in Ukraine, enjoying post-Soviet civil and religious freedoms, although mass emigration has continued over the past decade.

Attempts to unite Ukraine's Jews often have resulted in angry disputes. *AP*

Suspected child molester charged

The Tel Aviv District Court yesterday charged Haniel Elkayam, 34, of Petah Tikva with sodomizing a nine-year-old girl at knife-point in her school washroom on February 11.

Elkayam is also charged with indecent assault against three other girls, aged 10, 12, and 13, early this month in the Petah Tikva area.

The prosecution cited Elkayam's criminal history of larceny, drug abuse, and assaulting a civil servant, and requested he be held in custody until his trial is over. *Itim*

Judge suggests house arrest in extradition case

Jerusalem District Court Judge Tzvi Segal yesterday instructed prosecutors to consider holding American-born Haim Berger under house arrest while the court considers whether he should be extradited to the United States to face trial on various fraud charges.

Berger, 75, was one of several members of a hassidic community in New York charged with misappropriating federal funds estimated at $20 million.

Berger's attorneys, Pinhas Maranski and Yehuda Tonik, argued that his arrest in Israel was improperly executed, and that his old age warrants some leniency from the court. *Itim*

Court workers oppose information center

At a meeting in Tel Aviv yesterday, the court workers' union decided to impose work sanctions to protest the proposed opening of a courts information center in Jerusalem. The information center would handle some of the tasks normally performed by workers, such as transferring mail.

The union said it also demands the court workforce be expanded and salaries raised. Despite the sanctions, it added, workers will be available for urgent cases. *Itim*

Doctors to strike hospital after assault

Doctors at Hillel Yoffe Hospital in Hadera will strike today to protest against yesterday's attack on a doctor and a nurse by relatives of a patient.

The protest strike was called as part of the Israel Medical Association's policy to reduce their functioning to a minimum for 24 hours after violent incidents against hospital staffers. A complaint against the attackers was filed with the police.

From 8 a.m. today, the hospital will work according to a reduced Shabbat schedule, with only the emergency room, intensive care, high-risk pregnancy, dialysis, and neonatal units working normally. *Judy Siegel*

Local women to participate in cancer test

Over 2,000 Israeli women will be among the 120,000 around the world participating in clinical trials to study the efficacy of the CA-125 marker blood test for early detection of ovarian cancer. The testing and follow-up will be carried out over the next seven years, here and in a number of other European countries.

Prof. Uzi Beller, of Jerusalem's Shaare Zedek Hospital, will coordinate the testing of women in local hospitals, in cooperation with the Israel Cancer Association and the Israel Obstetrics and Gynecology Society.

Women over 50 whose menstrual period stopped more than a year ago, who didn't undergo surgical removal of their ovaries and who don't have a family history of ovarian or breast cancer are invited to participate by calling 1-800-254-666. *Judy Siegel*

Report: Burial societies' monopoly should be broken

By AMY KLEIN

Religious burial societies overpay their directors, waste money, and receive preferential treatment from the government, all of which make it economically unfeasible for private and secular burial societies to compete, says a report published yesterday by the Institute for Advanced Strategic and Political Studies, a private, economic think tank.

The 25-page paper also says that if the government enforces a March 1996 law to allocate land for alternative cemeteries, so that everyone has access to secular burial within 50 km of home, this would cost millions of shekels and create dozens of unnecessary cemeteries across the country.

About 120 burial societies are responsible for most interments in the country, with some 420 smaller organizations from settlements and kibbutzim, the report says. Israeli citizens are entitled to free burial – if they are buried near their homes. Many do not reserve plots in advance, and have a religious burial by default.

The report accuses the Religious Affairs Ministry of failing to regulate the cost of extra services not provided in the standard burial, such as special shrouds, transportation of the deceased beyond the 50 km radius, or elaborate tombstones.

It recommends creating a free market for cemeteries, where private companies can buy land and administer graveyards, thereby putting an end to ministerial oversight of burial services. The report maintains that this plan would be more cost-effective than opening alternative cemeteries for the non-Orthodox.

Shimon Navon, assistant director for the elderly at the National Insurance Institute – the government body responsible for burial allocations – rejected the proposal for opening the market. He said the government has a better solution: creating secular sections in four new cemeteries planned around the country.

The first secular cemetery is soon to be opened in Beersheba and the other three planned for Tel Aviv, Haifa, and Jerusalem are in the process of receiving land. "These cemeteries cost no more for the National Insurance Institute than the ones that currently exist, and will provide another option," he said.

According to a 1995 Israel Lands Administration survey, demand for alternative burials is expected to average 5,600 per year for the next 20 years.

Religious Affairs Ministry spokesman Shmuel Malka yesterday called this estimate too high, saying the new cemeteries being opened in "a few years" would provide enough space to cover the demand for secular burials.

He said the ministry's main problem is obtaining enough land from the ILA. "We have to spend about NIS 60 million per year to lease land," he said.

As for eliminating the ministry's supervision of burial societies, Malka said, "that would be like telling the Interior Ministry to stop giving out gun licenses. The government reserves some rights, and the Religious Affairs Ministry oversees the burial societies."

Malka agreed with the report's criticism of the Tel Aviv burial society, which buries some 9,000 people in 11 cities a year. The Ministerial Committee on Burial is looking into opening other burial societies in Tel Aviv to break the monopoly, Malka said.

Shmuel Gefen, director of the Tel Aviv Hevra Kadisha (burial society) said that cost effectiveness is not their only consideration, and the main problem with burials is that they don't have enough land. "There is no room for burials, and people don't lift a finger to give us land," he said. The Yarkon Cemetery, which was opened in 1991, is almost full. "Everyone wants cemeteries to be opened, but no one wants them in their neighborhood," he said.

Regarding the high annual salaries received by burial society directors – NIS 575,000 in Tel Aviv, NIS 344,000 in Haifa – Gefen said, "It's not a bad salary, but it's a very hard job burying the dead."

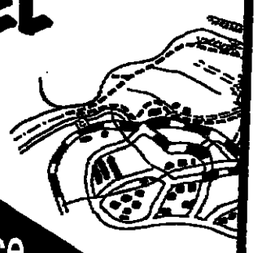


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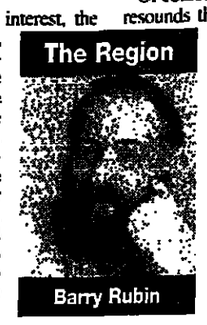
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Damn good allies

The Region



Barry Rubin

When I first visited Beirut many years ago, just before the civil war, there was a small outbreak of shooting between two obscure factions. The next day, newspapers reported that Israeli agents were responsible for the violence.

It was in Israel's interest, the papers explained, that violence undermine and destabilize Lebanon. For me this was a whole new style of logic. One didn't need evidence to prove one party or another committed an act, one simply needed to determine who might benefit or who may have had the desire to act.

Ten years or so later, I was at an academic conference in the US listening to some aspiring scholar present a paper designed to show that Israel had been solely responsible for the Lebanese civil war. Professor Malcolm Kerr, tragically destined to be assassinated by a terrorist when he was president of the American University in Beirut, stood up. "I'm one of that dying school of people," he said, "who believes you must have proof before reaching a conclusion."

More recently, one could read in quite respectable Arab newspapers that the scandal regarding US President Bill Clinton and Monica Lewinsky was a Zionist plot to blackmail or weaken the American chief executive. Before that, when Pakistan exploded an atomic bomb, several Arab newspapers claimed that Israeli planes were in the airspace above Pakistan, poised to attack the nuclear reactor there.

The Clinton-Lewinsky story only made its way into the Western media as a kind of joke, but the Pakistan story was picked up by some European and American newspapers. Fortunately, people finally realized that this claim was a logistical absurdity.

These events came to mind in recent days as hysteria mounted around accusations that Israel was involved in Turkey's seizure of the Kurdish rebel leader Abdullah Ocalan. Few realized that these stories, too, originated in Arab newspapers not known for their high degree of accuracy in such matters.

In this case, though, there was no easy way of countering the claims. Israel could not prove that it wasn't behind this event. Each denial was taken almost as additional verification. Western reporters, asked why they were giving the story such attention, said there had been "reports" that it had happened. Apparently, it was no longer their job to consider whether these reports were based on evidence or came from reliable sources.

Like many events concerning the Middle East, this story would have been funny if it hadn't led to people being killed, and others placed at risk.

Of course, the whole procedure resounds throughout Jewish history, centuries before modern Israel's creation. Jews have always been held accountable, merely on the basis of their alleged brilliant deviousness, ability to do anything, and willingness to stop at nothing.

This was the most disturbing aspect for Israel of the Ocalan affair, but by no means the only disgusting one. Some people, many of whom have no real concern for Israel and others who should know better, came forward to say that the problems arising from this event proved that the Israel-Turkey alliance was a mistake or should be reexamined.

Isn't this argument shamefully familiar? Over and over again in past decades, there were those in Europe and sometimes in America who used a fear of terrorism to justify the abandonment of Israel. If we associate with these people, they claimed, we will be targeted by terrorists.

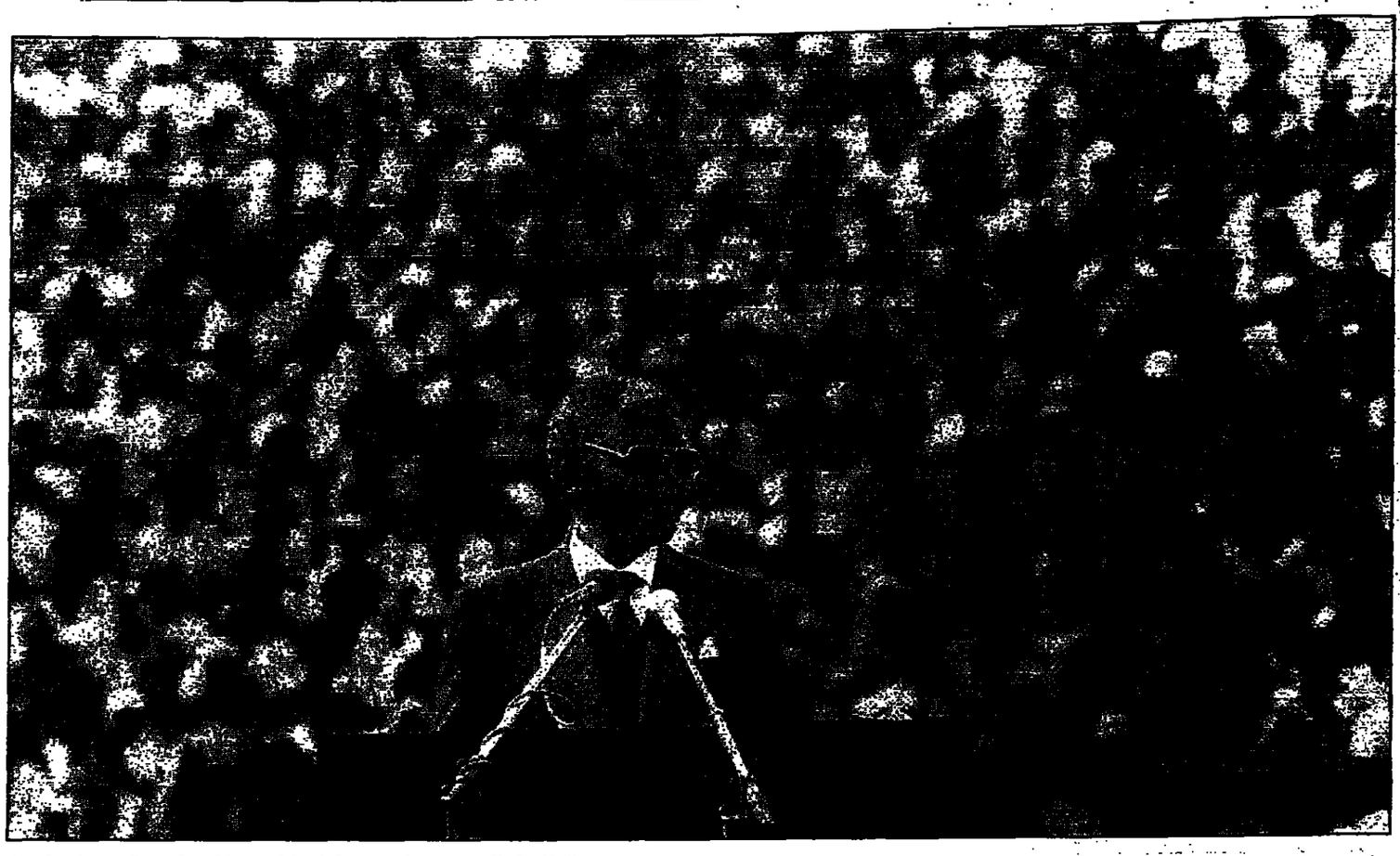
Can it be denied that this was a real factor that affected the foreign policy of many states over a large number of years? And now, was this loathsome line of reasoning to be used to set Israel's own behavior?

Of course, there is also an element of racism in the inability of some people to believe that the Turks were incapable of pulling off a very simple operation against no armed resistance or even reasonable security.

Let's be blunt about the real source of this attitude: "They aren't white Christians, old boy. Not really up to it. Must have had someone else telling them what to do and how to do it. We certainly can't have such people in the European club, you know. Still have a touch of the barbarian in them."

On the contrary. Turkey's willingness to face down Syria and force Ocalan's expulsion, its readiness and ability to defend its own people by seizing Ocalan, and courage in overcoming hostile European opinion are all damn good indications that it makes a splendid and reliable ally.

What's the alternative? Should we, like some, prefer Middle Eastern states with lots of money who sponsor terrorism, or European countries greedy for cash and too scared to stand up to terrorist groups?



South African President Nelson Mandela speaking at a rally in 1990 (Brian Hendler)

Mandela winds down

BY LYNNE DUKE

As he settles aboard the Falcon, his official jet, for the flight home, Nelson Mandela is tired and his brittle legs are weary, especially that bad right knee. Flight attendant Michele Williams kneels, carefully removes his shoes.

Mandela stretches his legs out on a facing seat and Williams flutters open a soft fringed blanket, arranging it gently over her nation's beloved president.

He is 80, an icon in his twilight, tired at the end of another grueling day. But do not think that Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela is bowing to age. Not now, not just yet. Although only three months remain for him in office, his mission is far from over.

Traveling with Mandela, even for one day, is to witness his extraordinary single-mindedness, moral suasion and personal contentiousness.

With an entourage including a cabinet minister, his doctor and a security detail, Mandela began his day of travel at 6:40 a.m. last Friday in Cape Town. He ended it 15 hours later in Pretoria, some 1,500 kms away.

He struggled up and down airplane stairs more than a dozen times, clutching aides' arms for support. He endured turbulent flights and rough landings on dirt airstrips. He delivered four speeches in three languages in three remote towns, always pushing racial reconciliation.

Over and over, he danced his trademark shuffle, pumping his arms but barely moving his feet. He held talks with business executives he expects to build rural schools and clinics. And, responding to a breaking crisis – the news that a police anti-terrorism official has been ambushed in Cape Town – he tells his staff, "I must go to the hospital to see him." "It's not because I like it," Mandela says aboard the Falcon.

"But I have to do it."

THREE-and-a-half decades have passed since Mandela faced the gallows for treason against white minority rule, when he outlined the ideals of democracy and equal opportunity for which he was ready to die.

Mandela has seen some of those ideals come true. Apartheid, the system of racial segregation and discrimination, has ended. Legal equality prevails. The nation's black majority is reflected in the composition of the government he heads. Rights of all kinds are protected as never before.

But he must keep pushing, cajoling and inspiring, to distance his nation from apartheid's psychic damage, to buoy its fractious people with hope, to convince them that everyone, black and white, is part of South Africa and must contribute to the new national identity he struggled to foster.

This is what Mandela does. This is who Mandela is.

Traveling with Mandela also reveals his tough side. Perhaps because he is tired, his usual graciousness is at a low ebb and he combatively deflects interview questions he is not keen to answer, especially about life after the presidency. Is he looking forward to retirement? "What is the relevance of that?" he snaps.

In an ideal world, what would a typical day of retirement be like? "No, I don't think we should talk about ideal worlds. I am in South Africa, here," he declares.

But he thinks a minute. On the subject of ideal worlds there is something more to add, something that softens his sparring. It is his many grandchildren, whose formative years he does not want to miss, as happened while his own children were growing up and he was in jail for 27 years.

"I have got grandchildren," he says. "I miss the opportunity of listening to them, to their dreams. I have vowed, whatever else I do, I must give space to my grandchildren and be able to help them to grow."

SOUTH Africans can scarcely fathom official life without Mandela.

Mandela, during his years of imprisonment, became the preeminent symbol of the liberation of South Africa's majority. His 1990 release sounded apartheid's death knell. Then his party, the African National Congress, prevailed in 1994 in a resounding vote for democracy in the first all-races national election.

In the past five years, Mandela has been the nation's president and its conscience, the voice of its aspirations. He routinely tells his people of the need for racial reconciliation; of the need for the white minority to step into the new South African mainstream and out of the tut-tutting margins; of the perils of blacks abusing their status as the nation's majority; of the special responsibility that big business has to help uplift the nation.

That last theme was the purpose of a trip to De Aar. This semi-arid region of northern Cape Province, with its stark, wind-swept termin and isolated towns, is home to harsh conditions, both physically and socially.

It is a region of Afrikaner farmers, descendants of the 17th-century Dutch-French settlers who enforced their language and culture on the indigenous people, the Khoisan and the Xhosa. Over time, there also emerged the "coloreds," products of racial mixture. Here the communities, still divided by race, are examples of the vast social needs left over from the apartheid era.

With government finances stretched thin, Mandela has persuaded big business, which basically means white business, to commit capital for development in poverty-stricken areas, which basically means poor black or colored areas. About 30 corporations have built scores of schools and clinics in rural regions like the Northern Cape.

ON this trip, Mandela's persuasive powers are targeted on executives from the liquor industry: Gary May and Tshidi Tseane of Gilbey's, and Stoffel Cronje of Distillers Corp.

"There is a realization that the community which has got advantages as a result of the history of the business, put some resources in?"

May and his colleagues are considering Mandela's appeal. As the day proceeds, however, it becomes clear they are being pulled along faster than they'd envisioned.

"They have come to see for themselves what is required and to meet those whose needs we must all address together," Mandela tells a crowd in a town of 22,000 called Prieska – "place of the lost she-goat," in Khoisan.

"They are eager to play their part in the reconstruction and development of our country, and to share their resources with those who were disadvantaged in the past," he tells the crowd. "They are acting in the true spirit of reconciliation, a practical partnership to overcome the legacy of our divided past."

As the day proceeds, May grows apprehensive: "He just must be careful not to overpromise, because we can't do every town." Mandela, however, ended the day certain the liquor industry would do its part. His appeals, he said, are never turned down.

THE Colesberg Civic Center is packed. A choir of black, white and and 2.5% Indian. The combination of the two songs is one of the symbolic steps Mandela's government took to show its embrace of Afrikaners. Mandela is not bitter toward the Afrikaner per se, though he has had differences with certain Afrikaner leaders.

What does embitter Mandela are those whites – including the steady stream of those leaving the country – who refuse to embrace South Africa's new identity.

Mandela seemed to say good riddance to them last year. "We are convinced that the real South Africans are being sorted out in this process," he said then. "They are saying, 'I am not going to run away from my country. I am going to stay and serve my country.'" It is a theme he picks up once again here in Colesberg.

"None of you should fear serving your own country," Mandela is saying, targeting the white minority. "You have no other country. This is your country.

"Don't sideline yourselves. You have the advantage of education. You went to schools... You went to university. We want you. Don't be on the sidelines, because white supremacy in this country we have destroyed. It will never come back."

So, too, he warns of black supremacy.

"Now, to you blacks, Africans. We are in the majority and the majority tends to abuse, tends to have contempt for the minority... One of the greatest mistakes is to try to abuse the minority."

Later, aboard the Falcon, Mandela explains: "It's something which is there. If you don't caution about it, this may happen. And it is proper to caution about it before it arises."



A 1961 Associated Press file photo showing then African National Congress president Nelson Mandela prior to his imprisonment. Mandela spent 27 years in prison for his ANC activities.

IT IS dusk in Cape Town, and Mandela is at the Milnerton Medi Clinic, in a private room with a white woman who is pacing and gesturing excitedly.

She is Rozanne Visagie, and her husband, Schalk Visagie, is at that moment in surgery to remove three bullets that struck him during an ambush on a Cape Town highway. Visagie, commander of a unit that is probing a spate of recent urban bombings, is the second officer on that investigation to be ambushed this year; the first was killed.

Rozanne Visagie is also the daughter of former South African president P.W. Botha, one of the most unrepentant, unreconciled leaders of the old order.

While Mandela meets with Botha's daughter, whispers fill the hallway outside. Visagie wants to release a statement slamming Mandela's government for outlawing the death penalty, people are saying.

"If P.W. wants to send a political message, he mustn't do it under these circumstances," a white man says worriedly...

Mandela emerges and makes a brief statement to a small press pack, saying he came only to show his support for Visagie.

His face is sagging. His voice is raspy. He totters out into the Cape Town dusk, among police with automatic weapons and bulletproof vests, and heads to the airport for the last leg of this day's marathon.

Back on board, when gently prodded, he returns to the subject of retirement.

"Well, if you are talking about the fact that I keep in mind that in May or June this year I will step down, in that sense I'm looking forward to it." But, he adds, "It's just an ordinary event, like the other events which take place in my life."

(The Washington Post)

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Serb peace negotiators return home to Belgrade

By SLOBODAN LEKIC

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia (AP) – Jubilant Serb negotiators returned home yesterday, saying they prevailed against Western pressure at the Kosovo peace talks by keeping foreign troops out of the province.

State media joined in the exultation, describing the results of 17 days talks in Rambouillet, France, as a victory for the government of Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic.

In contrast, a mood of defiance prevailed among Kosovo's Albanian leaders, who were unable to gain an agreement for full independence for Kosovo, a province with an overwhelming ethnic Albanian majority among its 2 million people.

Peace talks were frozen Tuesday until March 15, after Western mediators extracted only partial agreement between warring Serbs and ethnic Albanians on a political framework for separatist-minded Kosovo.

The military part of the proposed accord – which provides for the stationing of 28,000 armed NATO peacekeepers in Kosovo – was left unresolved because of Serbia's steadfast refusal to admit foreign troops.

Serbian President Milan Milutinovic told reporters at Belgrade airport yesterday that the talks had achieved "significant initial success" in solving the problems in Kosovo, where more than 2,000 people have died in fighting in the past year. "Our principal efforts to preserve the territorial integrity and sovereignty of our country were affirmed," Milutinovic said.

In Kosovo, Adem Demaci of the rebel Kosovo Liberation Army told the Albanian-language daily *Kosova Sot* that he and the KLA will continue working on full independence as a "final solution to the Kosovo problem."

"There was huge pressure on us to accept, because [Milosevic] was rejecting the agreement. But we Albanians should not accept something just because Milosevic rejects it," Demaci was quoted as saying.

Ethnic Albanian sources said the Albanian delegation in France, which was unable to get international officials to go along with its demand for an independence referendum, has decided to form a new "government" that will function until elections can be held.

61 die in China plane crash

By JOHN LEICESTER

BEIJING (AP) – All 61 people aboard a Chinese airliner were killed when it plunged into a farm field and exploded yesterday, state media reported.

The Russian-made Tupolev-154 with 50 passengers and 11 crew members was 20 kms. from its destination of Wenzhou, a city about 400 kms. south of Shanghai, when it crashed and then exploded at 4:20 p.m., Xinhua news service said.

The weather was clear, observers said, and the cause of the crash was under investigation.

The plane gouged a hole more than 60 meters long by 30 meters wide and several farmers were injured and taken to hospitals, the report said.

No foreigners were among the passengers, Xinhua reported.

The China Southwest Airlines Flight SZ4509 originated in Chengdu, in Sichuan province in the southwest.

Chinese air carriers are especially busy now because millions of people traveled home for the Lunar New Year, the nation's biggest holiday, which this year started on February 16. China's last major air disaster was in May 1997, when a Boeing 737 crash-landed at an airport in the southern city of Shenzhen, killing 35 people.

In June 1994, a Tupolev-154 slammed into a field in northern China, killing all 160 people aboard in the country's worst-ever air disaster.

An official newspaper said yesterday that China plans to spend 10 billion yuan ($1.2 billion) upgrading its air traffic control systems.

The upgrade includes building 10 large air traffic management centers by 2010, up from the 37 smaller centers in use now, *the China Daily* said.



The area of the Austrian resort town of Galtuer, hit by an avalanche late Tuesday, as seen from an Austrian army helicopter yesterday. (AP)

Austrian avalanche toll at 14

VIENNA (Reuters) – Austria yesterday appealed abroad for more rescue helicopters as the number of bodies recovered from an avalanche in the western ski resort of Galtuer rose to 14, APA news agency reported.

Local firefighters and police joined dozens of volunteers in a frantic search for survivors after a 16 foot high wall of snow smashed through the village Tuesday afternoon. A team of doctors, most of whom were in the area on holiday, treated the injured in a sports center.

Elsewhere in Europe, the cost in lives and property damage from recent avalanches continued to mount.

In Switzerland, the death toll rose to seven from a weekend avalanche near the southern village of Evolene, when rescue teams pulled out the bodies of four adults and one child, police said. Three people remain missing.

Tens of thousands of tourists were cut off in snowbound resorts in Austria and Switzerland.

In France, blizzards hampered rescuers trying to find five French skiers and hikers missing in the Alps and the Pyrenees.

Galtuer remained isolated from the outside world, with all roads to it impassable and a military rescue team equipped with dogs and specialist equipment unable to leave nearby Landeck by helicopter because of strong wind and snow.

Electricity was unavailable in parts of the village and telephones were down.

By early yesterday, 29 people had been found alive in addition to the 14 dead. A smaller second avalanche hit the outskirts of the resort just after midnight but claimed no new victims, APA said.

Austrian defense ministry spokesman Wolfgang Pucher said the US, Germany, France, Britain, and Switzerland had been asked to provide extra helicopters to airlift in supplies and evacuate residents and holidaymakers as soon as weather conditions permit.

Franz Wenko, a local hotel manager, told Austrian television by telephone of the moment the avalanche struck.

"We were drinking mulled wine and then the lights went out. It was all of a sudden dark, with snow and haze. We thought only of getting out as soon as possible," he said.

WORLD

in brief

Ocalan's lawyers still barred from seeing him

ANKARA (AP) – Lawyers for Kurdish rebel chief Abdullah Ocalan were again barred from meeting with him yesterday, after having been excluded from his first legal hearing a day earlier.

At Tuesday's proceeding, closed to the press and public, Ocalan was formally arrested on treason charges, paving the way for his trial in a state security court where prosecutors say they will seek the death penalty. It marked the ninth day in custody without access to attorneys for Ocalan, who was brought to Turkey February 16 after being seized in the Kenyan capital of Nairobi by Turkish commandos.

"The fact that Abdullah Ocalan has not been allowed to see any legal counsel since being charged is a direct abuse of his legal rights," said one of his lawyers, Ahmet Zeki Okcuoglu.

Witness describes killing in war crimes case

LONDON (AP) – An elderly witness at Britain's first war crimes trial testified yesterday that he saw accused Nazi collaborator Anthony Sawoniuk among the police who tormented and stabbed an old man to death in Belarus in 1942. The prosecution says Sawoniuk, 77, acknowledges joining a police force set up to murder the local Jewish population after Germans overran his hometown of Domachevo in June 1941. But he denies the four murders of which he stands accused.

Benzion Blustein, 76, who came from Israel to testify in the Old Bailey Criminal Court, said that he saw a policeman called Andrusha – alleged to be Sawoniuk – and other officers take out an 80-year-old Jewish neighbor, Shaya Idel, a scholar.

"The Ukranian police went after him and stabbed him with bayonets. They set fire to his beard and his sidelocks. I did not hear one cry. They dragged him and hit him and he disappeared from the horizon."

Defense begins in Italian cable car case

CAMP LEJEUNE, North Carolina (AP) – The pilot of a US Marine jet that hit an Italian gondola cable, killing 20 people, was neither qualified nor adequately trained for the fatal low-level mission, a defense witness testified yesterday.

Milton Miller, who helped the Air Force establish its low-level training standards, was the second defense witness to testify after prosecutors rested their case against Capt. Richard Ashby.

The crew of the EA-6B Prowler that severed the cable on February 3, 1998, was "not proficient, especially Captain Ashby," Miller testified. "They did not have this kind of training and that led to what happened in the mishap valley."

Nigeria decrees terms for civilian president

ABUJA, Nigeria (AP) – Nigeria's military government issued new rules yesterday limiting the winner of Saturday's presidential election to two four-year terms and requiring that he declare all assets before assuming power.

The government of Gen. Abdulsalami Abubakar also set out other election rules, including jail terms and fines for anyone caught offering or accepting bribes. The rules were released as part of Nigeria's draft constitution, which is still being debated and written. The ballot is the climax of Nigeria's planned transition to civilian government after 15 years of military rule.

Egypt's population tops 62 million

CAIRO (AP) – Egypt's population has reached 62,687,839, the government announced yesterday. Announcing the results of a census carried out in January 1998, Egypt's Middle East News Agency said the population is increasing by 3,444 persons a day or 2.4 persons a minute. The previous census in December 1996 put Egypt's population at slightly above 59 million people.

According to the latest census, some 1.9 million Egyptians live abroad. The government is encouraging family planning to reduce the population growth, which is eating away into its social and economic development plans.

CIA predicts serious Y2K problems abroad

By JIM ABRAMS

WASHINGTON (AP) – The Year 2000 computer problem could cause serious disruptions abroad, including breakdowns in nuclear reactors and strategic missile systems, midwinter power outages, and disruptions in world trade and oil shipments, a CIA official warned yesterday.

Air Force Gen. John Gordon, deputy director of the CIA, emphasized at a Senate Armed Services Committee hearing that gaps in information make it hard to assess the scope of the damage in foreign countries, although it is evident that most countries, particularly Russia, are far behind the US in preparing for the crisis.

Gordon said Russia has exhibited a low level of awareness for the "Y2K" problems that could occur if computers misread the year 2000 as 1900. Midwinter power outages, he said, could have "major humanitarian consequences" in countries such as Russia and Ukraine.

"We currently do not see a danger of unauthorized or inadvertent launch of ballistic missiles from any country due to Y2K problems," he stressed. But he said there could be serious local problems with missiles if temperature or humidity monitors malfunction, and that problems in early-warning systems could lead to incorrect information.

The developing world faces the greatest threats of disruptions, Gordon said. China will probably experience failures in key sectors such as telecommunications, electric power, and banking.

The US is regarded as the world leader in fixing the Y2K problem, but the draft of a report being prepared by two senators who have been studying the issue, Robert Bennett, R-Utah, and Christopher Dodd, D-Conn., said the consequences within the country should not be underestimated.

Atomic bombings top US journalists' list of century's news

By ARLENE LEVINSON

NEW YORK (AP) – The top news story of the 20th century was America's atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, according to a survey of prominent US journalists and scholars released yesterday.

The 1945 bombings topped 99 other stories of the century. The list was compiled for the Newseum, a museum about news gathering.

No. 2 was Neil Armstrong's walk on the moon in 1969. Third place went to Japan's bombing of Pearl Harbor 1941.

Participants were each asked to select the 25 most important news events, and their lists were combined to produce a final ranking of 100. That list, rearranged in chronological order, now becomes a ballot that the public can vote on.

CNN anchor Judy Woodruff concluded the century's lead news event was the atomic bombing, but "The one thing for which this century will be remembered 500 years from now was: We began the exploration of space," said historian Arthur Schlesinger Jr., whose first choice was Armstrong's moon walk.

Though third on the list, Japan's bombing of Pearl Harbor was No. 1 for Ben Bradlee. "World War II was 25 percent of my life at one time," Bradlee said. The assassination of his personal friend President John F. Kennedy in 1963 was No. 6 on the final list, No. 2 for Bradlee.

Watergate, which his reporters uncovered, was 7 for Bradlee, now vice president at-large at *The Washington Post*, 14 on the list.

The public can cast votes by visiting the Newseum Web site, www.newseum.org.

Schlesinger looked forward. "I put DNA and penicillin and the computer and the microchip in the first 10 because they've transformed civilization. Wars vanish," Schlesinger said.

"Pearl Harbor will be as remote as the War of the Roses," he said.

Some events ranked among the top 10 reflected the survey's American orientation: No. 5: Women win the vote in the US, 1920. No. 9: The 1954 Brown vs. Board of Education Supreme Court case that ended school segregation.

Other stories in the top 10 included: 4: Wilbur and Orville Wright fly the first powered airplane, 1903. 7: Horrors of Nazi Holocaust exposed, 1945. 8: World War I begins in Europe, 1914. 10: US stock market crash, 1929. President Bill Clinton's impeachment ranked No. 53.

Daley wins third full term in Chicago

CHICAGO (AP) – Mayor Richard M. Daley easily extended his family's political dynasty, defeating former Black Panther Bobby Rush to win a third full term.

Daley won Tuesday's election on the strength of a booming local economy, a highly publicized school reform program, and sweeping efforts to give America's third-largest city a face-lift.

Daley told cheering supporters that his victory was "a vote of confidence in our city and the direction we have charted together." He carried predominantly black wards and won support in every part of the city.

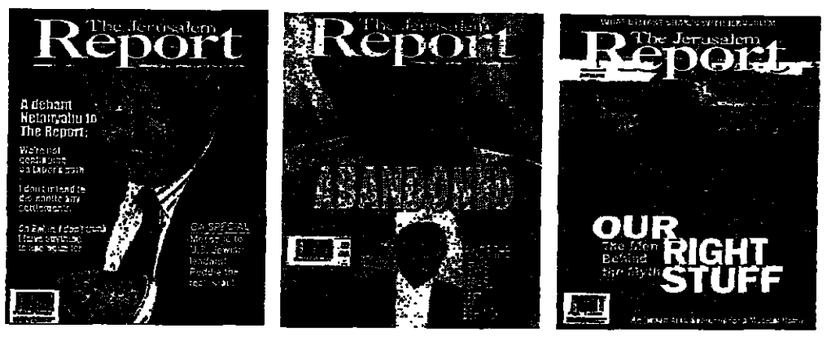
Rush, a four-term congressman, trailed badly throughout the race, which showed that Daley, like his father before him, has Chicago all sewn up.

In conceding defeat Rush praised his supporters, who he said "stood up against the odds... against all the enormous resources that were aimed at me."

Daley, first elected in 1989, is the son of Richard J. Daley, who was mayor for 21 years and boss of the now-gone Chicago Machine.

The 56-year-old mayor has drawn national attention for his drive to upgrade Chicago's schools, once described as America's worst.

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Pirating the rule of law

The impeachment trial of President Bill Clinton presented the US Congress with an agonizing choice between seeming to condone lying under oath or removing a popular president. On Tuesday, the 14th Knesset took a blatant, undisguised slap at the rule of law without the pressure of such a legitimate dilemma, and despite the availability of ample opportunities to accomplish the same purpose harmlessly.

By a vote of 40 to 30, the Knesset passed a reservation offered by MK Zvi Hendel (NRP) that would grant a broadcasting license to any radio station that had operated continuously – and illegally – for the past five years.

The provision was designed to legalize the Arutz 7 radio station, and would also have the effect of legalizing a number of other pirate stations, including four affiliated with the Shas Party.

The issue here is not, as proponents of the measure argued, freedom of speech. It is clear, as the Peled Commission argued in June 1997, that the tight regulatory grip that the government holds on radio and television broadcasting should be substantially loosened. Aside from regulations to prevent radio stations from interfering with each other, safeguard security and transportation needs, and to protect the public against obscene or hateful speech prohibited in all media, there is no reason to dictate the number and type of radio stations. For a country with as vigorous a free press as Israel enjoys, it is striking that there is no legal, national radio station that is unaffiliated with the government.

The airwaves, then, should be opened, as the government has pledged, and as would have been partially accomplished by legislation just drafted by a ministerial commission. The commission, headed by Education Minister Yitzhak Levy and Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi, recommended just weeks ago that a number of "special interest" national radio stations be licensed. Yet for the Arutz 7 leaders, 10 of whom are under indictment for violating broadcast regulations, it was not enough to be allowed to compete for a tender that was more or less tailor-made for them to win. Instead, they convinced the Knesset, over the vociferous opposition of Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein, to toss aside such niceties as legality and fairness. By Knesset fiat, the right to operate the first independent national radio stations will be handed on a silver platter – exclusively – to pirate radio stations.

It is mystifying why the Knesset which, after all, passed the very laws that it now has rewarded the pirate stations for violating, would so blatantly undermine its own authority. Even Levy, whose ministry oversees the Second Television Law that provides for existing legal regional stations, ignored the recommendations of his own commission and voted for the provision.

One might ask what is the purpose of having an attorney-general if his legal advice is so unceremoniously ignored – not by the opposition, but by the government. Nor can Rubinstein be accused of opposing the principle of creating a legal framework that would include Arutz 7. The Justice Ministry did not oppose, and in fact, helped draft the alternative, spurned proposal that would have led to the station's legalization.

By ignoring such efforts, the Knesset created a legal monster whose implications are unclear. No one knows, for example, how many pirate stations will be legalized by the provision, or the basis for their regulation. The Second Television and Radio Authority Law, to which the new provision assigns the just-legalized stations loosely by implication, was not written to apply to national radio stations. Nor is it clear whether the fees and regulations that apply to legal radio stations will apply to the former pirates.

Perhaps more disturbing is the unfairness of the law to radio stations that went through the arduous and expensive process of legally competing for tenders. It is not clear how such a lack of competition will pass muster with the Supreme Court, which will have to rule on challenges to the legislation.

Finally, there is now a precedent set by the same government that in March 1997 urgently pushed for more funds to find and shut down pirate stations that were endangering air traffic at Ben-Gurion Airport – it now regards radio piracy as no shame, and perhaps a badge of honor. Freedom of speech should be expanded by further deregulation that would allow voices from across the political and social spectrums to be heard. Trampling the rule of law along the way is wrong and unnecessary in accomplishing this worthy goal.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

END THE TV TAX

Sir, – I was very pleased when Limor Livnat received the Communications portfolio because I believed that she would make a significant contribution by privatizing the media. Not only did this make sense in terms of the prime minister's economic goals, but also because we, as new immigrants, conceptualize a state-owned TV station as completely antithetical to the goals of a democratic nation.

The success of Channel 2, as well as the general consensus that it provides better programming than Channel 1, certainly obviates the need for a state-run station. Why is the government continuing to support it? (Or should I say, why are WE continuing to support it through the TV tax?) If it is providing a valuable service, then surely there would be advertisers willing to pay to support the channel. And if there is insufficient viewership to attract advertisers, then why should the public be expected to pay for it?

It is hard for me to understand the concept of being forced to pay for the privilege of owning a TV. However, since I can still enjoy listening to a CD without paying tax, perhaps I shouldn't complain that I can't watch a home video without paying tax. I don't understand what has prevented the privatization of Channel 1, but would really like to know how much longer it will continue to be a burden to an already overtaxed population.

MIRIAM REINFELD

Jerusalem.

ANTI-RELIGIOUS SLANDER

Sir, – I take exception to the antagonism of almost all of your columnists toward the religious population. It reflects the almost united stand of the media against a population that numbers hundreds of thousands. Such slander of other groups (particularly the Arabs) would be called incitement.

It is not wrong or unusual in a democracy to criticize the judiciary, especially a judiciary that achieves office not through elections but through political appointments.

We are now witnessing the struggle for survival of the last bastions of power of the extreme anti-religious minority – the media and the courts. All of the other centers of power (the Knesset, the Histadrut, the financial institutions, and industry) which are democratically elected or function freely have rejected the anti-religious minority. The country is better for it.

I hope that in the near future the media and the judiciary will moderate and the atmosphere will improve.

C. HIGHKIN

Rehovot.

THANK YOU

Sir, – Three cheers for Naomi Ragen. In her books and now in her opinion piece "Think again," (February 16) she expresses the feelings of many of us. The support and defense of our cruel judiciary is vital. Her contempt for haredi attacks is gratifying. But what shall we do? Dear Ms. Ragen, we are not regimented as the haredim. We don't have networks to activate us ordinary people. Maybe we should.

We are the majority. We must stop acting like a cowed minority. Surely we could have mobilized more than 50,000 people to express our view in defense of our civil society.

Let this letter inform those who would drag us backwards to the Middle Ages that we will not permit it. And: Thank you, Ms. Ragen.

MURIEL MOULTON

Kiryat Tivon.

THINK AGAIN

Sir, – Naomi Ragen's article "Think again" (February 16) hit me between the eyes. Unfortunately, I, as a modern Orthodox Jewess must agree with much of what she wrote. However, I resented the tone of the article. It was laced with venom, hatred, revulsion, and repugnance. Think again, young lady, when you write.

DR. JENNY WEIL

Jerusalem.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

65 years ago: On February 25, 1934, *The Palestine Post* reported that a particularly violent storm, which had been raging for several days, put a number of ships in jeopardy and prevented disembarkation. Cargo of one ship had been lost, while another got stuck on the seashore.

50 years ago: On February 25, 1949, *The Palestine Post* published the full text of the Israeli-Egyptian armistice agreement and expressed hope that this document signified the de-facto recognition and laid the basis for a permanent peace in Palestine.

25 years ago: On February 25, 1974, *The Jerusalem Post* reported Premier Golda Meir's passionate appeal to Moshe Dayan and Shimon Peres to serve in her 58-member minority government. There were prospects for the new national elections, to be held soon.

Eighty names were still missing from the first official estimate of the number of soldiers unaccounted for on the Golan Heights since the October war.

Alexander Zvielli

Kafka's cops

URI DAN

Last week, one of the IDF's most outstanding generals, Avigdor (Yanush) Ben-Gal, was turned into a punching bag and subjected to a public lynching by the Israel Police.

On the one hand, Ben-Gal was forbidden by the police to discuss his interrogation publicly, which prevented him from categorically denying the malicious libel that had been concocted against him (and through him, against Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon). But on the other hand, the police kept dealing him glancing blows in the media. Ben-Gal resembled a tied-up wrestler being beaten up by masked thugs.

Ben-Gal "was questioned for 11 hours, on suspicion he was bribed by Sharon to change his testimony" in Sharon's libel suit against *Ha'aretz*, "police sources" reported. Naturally, these police sources never identified themselves, as if they wanted to cover their rears; in case everything they had said and done turned out to be nothing more than spreading stinking smoke where there was no fire, at least they were safe.

These "police sources" also made sure there were photographers on hand to snap pictures of the reserve major-general on his way to the police station. And they made sure to announce it when "Yanush was questioned a second time for seven hours."

And when Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu dared to say that it was he who had suggested to Sharon that he take Ben-Gal to Russia with him in 1997 (the trip that is at the heart of the alleged bribe), the masked men – that is, the anonymous police sources – ran to inform the media that "this is improper interference in the investigation."

And Insp.-Gen Yehuda Wilk hastened to announce that he had given his investigators a "wide umbrella" under which to work.

Indeed, it will take a wide umbrella to protect this case sparked by *Ha'aretz*, which has taken on poisonous proportions. Eventually, it will emerge exactly how *Ha'aretz*, which is constantly battling with Sharon aside from the libel suit, managed to get the attorney-general and his aides to push the police into this foolish investigation.

BEN-GAL and I have known each for many years, though we have never been friends; in fact, we argued frequently. Nonetheless, I cannot forget the courage he demonstrated at the head of his brigade on the Golan Heights during the Yom Kippur War, which we heard about even as the bitter battles led by Sharon at the Suez Canal were taking place.

But I have not come to restore a fighter and commander's lost honor; that concept has no meaning in our rotten society in any case.

It is something else, however, to defend a man's dignity and freedom, which are ostensibly enshrined in those basic laws that are the pride of the most hypocritical of legal eagles, including those in police uniform.

These masked men, the anonymous police sources, in their fear of exposing themselves, have created a Kafkaesque situation. They are allowed to leak anything, including lies, and can then say that this was part of "a psychological process necessary for the investigation." But about themselves, about their methods of investigation, its format, and the evil and tendentious leaks that emerge from it, one cannot emit a word of criticism.

If this spectacle wasn't so sad, it would be less appropriate for Kafka than for Sholem Aleichem, the humorist who had a knack for portraying the fools, innocents, and wicked men who generated the famous tales about their ghetto lives.

I don't believe Wilk's pious declaration that "we do not set a target at the outset of an investigation that presumes its ultimate results."

For if this is the case, how can his investigators justify their work in this case, which was going on in secret for several months? How can they account for the wiretapping that they carried out with Bolshevik-like enthusiasm? How can they defend the large financial outlay involved in such an investigation, perhaps even including secret "business" trips to Russia?

And how can they explain the nasty leaks to the press?

They will have to come up with some story to justify an intensive investigation into this wild-goose chase, a product of a sick mind, regarding how "Sharon bribed Ben-Gal into changing his testimony." They will probably tell a tale of "apparent suspicions" ("sort of, like – you know," as teenagers say), so that at least people might believe there had been a goose.

Too bad we don't have a Sholem Aleichem to describe this miserable mockery of a police force. A police force whose minister threw up his hands and called on citizens to protect their own property, and deal with their own stolen cars and burglarized homes, thus publicly declaring that the system he runs is bankrupt.

Yet this same system claims it has the ability to investigate these vicious, false charges made by *Ha'aretz*, regarding how a minister bribed a general – and in Russia, yet.

Perhaps only Sholem Aleichem, with his wild imagination, could find a way to explain to our police inspector-general exactly where to stick his umbrella.

Dry Bones



The View From the East

DAOUD KUTTAB

Bypassing the censors

Cairo hosted an interesting conference last weekend: a conclave on Arab satellite broadcasting, sponsored by the UK-based Article 19 organization.

Arab and Western academics spoke for two days about satellite transmissions and their future in an Arab world that is still largely run by closed and undemocratic regimes. With the exception of a senior executive from the new Egyptian satellite digital station Nile Sat, no Arab television station executives or producers attended.

Article 19 is a nongovernmental organization dedicated to the advancement of policies and regulations that guarantee the freedom of speech (which is the 19th clause in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights).

Satellite broadcasts, like the Internet, provide a rare opportunity to reach populations whose rulers have kept a tight fist on information for decades. As one speaker noted, Arab rulers, unable to block this media platform, are now forced to deny what is being said there or counter it by going on the air with their own version. It's an indication that these countries' total control over the media is over.

What is more interesting is that some of the newer satellite stations are challenging even the dominant Saudi-backed wealthy satellite stations and pay-TV channels.

In commenting on the most popular satellite station, the Qatar-based Al Jazzira, one of the researchers declared an end to the media cartel. Once one station breaks rank and doesn't toe the line, all the other stations will have to compete and therefore engage their viewers.

Satellite and the Internet provide an opportunity to reach Arabs whose rulers have controlled information for decades

But Al Jazzira, whose popular political debate program, *The Opposing Stream*, has been instrumental in giving the station top ratings, is still the exception.

In a talk I gave on the low level of programming on Arab satellite stations, I angered some of the audience by stating that most Arab satellite broadcasters are more interested in having their tiny logo on the bottom of the screen than in the quality of the programs actually filling the screen.

Every Arab country, no matter how small, feels that going on satellite is tantamount to international recognition. Some countries have more than one station with little indigenous programming.

A recent study submitted to the Moroccan parliament showed that more than 60% of the Moroccan people don't watch either of the country's two channels. Apparently, more people in Morocco watch French satellite stations and Al Jazzira than their national channels.

For the first time, Arabs are finding out what is happening in their own country and in the rest of the Arab world, without the filters of national broadcasters and Information Ministry controllers.

THE significance of this is not only political. Government and civic leaders are afraid that this uncontrolled openness will cause major social upheavals.

One Egyptian researcher said that CNN's success in Egypt was due to the fact that its cable subscriptions were marketed along with the popular music channel MTV. A professor from the American University in Cairo told the conference that his students think that all Americans use the profanities they hear street gangs using on television.

But instead of accepting these facts and trying to encourage the production of quality programs, some of the Arab academics tried to defend existing censorship and controls. One even argued that "protocol news" is necessary in the developing world, so that the public knows what its leaders are doing!

Fortunately these arguments were quickly rebuffed, but that such mentalities still exist in the Arab world's intellectual community is very worrisome.

Perhaps one of the most important trends discussed at the conference related to advertising. Despite the sharp drop in oil prices, which tends to depress Arab economies, advertising dollars spent on Arab satellite stations has been increasing significantly. In 1998 more than $300 million was spent on satellite television advertising. Naturally, these advertising dollars, which know no politics or national pride, went to the most-watched stations.

Certainly it would be a mistake to expect major change from government-subsidized Arab broadcasters just because of ratings. But the satellite and Internet revolutions are giving Arab viewers something new.

As long as Arab governments can't shoot down satellites, or confiscate TV remote control units and computer keyboards, Arab viewers will have something they haven't had before. Choice.

Socialism? Not again

DANIEL DORON

Labor-inclined politicians, intellectuals and pundits are advocating a return to German-style socialism with a smiley Blair-face. *Ha'aretz* recently recommended that Israelis should eagerly embrace a "proud and confident Left," since the Left is everything good: civil rights, "sophistication, prosperity" and, of course, immediate peace.

What these ingenuous advocates neglect to explain is why in the past, even under Israel's ideal circumstances of a well-knit community of intelligent, hard-working and dedicated devotees supported by large capital, socialism could not deliver.

Claiming that it was not given a chance is preposterous, since by socialism's classic definition, the Israeli economy was strictly socialist. Most "means of production" and basic resources, including land and water, were either collectivized or nationally owned. Labor wrote its own work rules.

Still, collectivized enterprises repeatedly collapsed economically, only to be rescued by more charity and by that same private initiative they kept undermining.

The failure was also moral. Despite Zionism's high purpose and dedication it has been plagued by systemic ineptitude and corruption that still poisons our lives.

The reason for socialism's total failure, in every country and culture, is elementary. Its implementation, even as an attenuated welfare state, requires a huge transfer of resources by coercive state intervention. This subjects society, and the economy particularly, to political and bureaucratic domination that destroys incentive and entrepreneurship. Increasingly, citizens become wards of the state and of politicians, as the distributive economy encourages the formation of "clienteles" of warring vested interests.

Political dependency then infects all sectors: education, religion, the arts and most voluntary organizations, even Magen David Adom. Relations between groups become polarized, radicalized and even violent, as they fight for political power. Public-sector strikes degenerate into tire-burning or life-jeopardizing action.

Preferential, distributive politics institutionalizes discrimination. It eventually concentrates immense power in the hands of interlocking political-cum-bureaucratic-economic elites allied with the oligarchy, as in Israel. Concentrated unbalanced power is inevitably abused, leading to nepotism and corruption.

Extensive politicization shifts many energies to unproductive activity. It becomes more profitable to "work the phones" to Jerusalem than to work on a production line. When politicization finally stymies growth, the political system is required, ironically, to correct alleged "market failures" which it has created. A cycle is established of impoverishment and dependency like that plaguing our development towns, the epitome of destructive government intervention.

Distributive politics also undermines productivity, as in Israel. It requires the establishment of huge, costly and wasteful bureaucracies, whose immense discretionary power is exploited to further their own growth. And as taxation (to fund these bureaucracies) crosses the point people consider equitable, it causes massive evasion that leads, inevitably, to general law-breaking and the criminalization of society. This happens not only in irreverent Israel, but even in sedate Sweden.

The dream of a market-driven welfare state is just that, as massive transfers of resources so distort prices that resources can't be effectively allocated, creating shortages and waste, as occurred in Eastern bloc economies before they collapsed. The market's invisible hand that prompts selfish competing producers seeking profit to produce better, cheaper goods and services, motivates players in the political "market" to exploit resources they control, ostensibly for the public good, to their selfish ends.

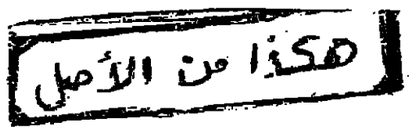
Government, after all, doesn't have to compete for its customers. Neither is it disciplined by competition and profit. Increase the public budget for education or health and the lion's share will go bureaucratic purposes, including obscene salaries and perks, rather than for the students or the sick.

Statism has also a darker, more dangerous side to it. The French, who bequeathed it to the world, are now learning about this from the Paris trial charging former Socialist prime minister Laurent Fabius and his former ministers of health and social affairs with knowingly dispensing AIDS-contaminated blood to hemophiliacs.

Centralized state power inevitably results in a fatal lack of accountability, scandalous incompetence and even criminal neglect (remember the silicon in our milk, toxic waste disposal, or the frequent accidents in the IDF?).

As the prophet Samuel warned Israel, kings or states exact a heavy price for their services, so we should buy only the bare minimum. After living with the disastrous consequences of 70 years of Socialism and statism, we ought to realize that while the road to a socialist hell may be paved with good intentions, there is no reason to forget where it leads.





Weekender

Eve's Women get the apple



Eve's Women (left to right): Orit Orbach, Michal Eizen, Yael Cohen, Tamar Naveh and Dafna Sadeh.

The five musicians of Eve's Women start with traditional Jewish music, and then they take it to town

By MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

Two and a half years ago, four young musicians, each coming from a totally different background and discipline, formed one of the most exciting local music ensembles around.

Eve's Women comprises percussionist Yael Cohen from the rock band The Witches (Hamachshefot), bassist Dafna Sade from the ethnic ensemble East-West (Mizrah-Ma'arav), jazz keyboardist Michal Eizen, and classical clarinetist Orit Orbach. Together these women have created a sizzling musical ensemble that leans very heavily on Jewish musical traditions while retaining its very own special sound.

Yet another klezmer group? Not necessarily.

"Everything we do definitely comes from a Jewish origin," says Orbach who has played her clarinet with symphony orchestras all over the world. "But I feel that the word klezmer is somewhat limiting. Klezmer has the feeling of Eastern European Jewish music, something which is very specific. Our music always starts from some kind of Jewish music, but not necessarily Eastern European. We also play music which comes from other regions like Persia and the Middle East."

Eve's Women has become a hit, with at least six gigs a month, and it provides Orbach with an exciting outlet to play something rather different. "Classical music makes you play in a more organized and controlled way. Here I get a chance to let loose, to become crazy, to let go. I like this a lot. I love this balance in my music."

Orbach says that the clarinet has become second nature to her. "A cat and the clarinet are very much alike. Both have this ability to change shape and color, to fall on your feet and rise up at once. The clarinet has a huge register and endless colors. When I play I suffer from ongoing schizophrenia."

Everything Eve's Women plays, Orbach says, starts with a very clear musical idea usually composed or presented by one of the band members. "Then we go from there in all kind of directions and we improvise as well. I wouldn't say that each and every performance we do is totally different from the previous one, but there is this element of surprise."

"There is something to be said for female intuition. Playing with other women is great. At first, I thought there's no difference between the way men and women play, but our playing is more intuitive, we have an added special female touch. When we started I was sure that youngsters would love this music. It's a fusion of Latin rhythms, rock and traditional music. There is nothing wrong with it as long as it's fun. I believe in fusion now, although seven years ago I was rather against it."

IN the ensemble's ongoing efforts to change, improve and add more color and variety to their sound, Eve's Women recently added a fifth member, percussionist Tamar Naveh, 21.

"Ever since I started playing music, at age four or five, I was drawn to percussion," she says. "But then I studied the piano for a long time and only three years ago I returned intuitively to the world of percussion, which is meant for me. I loved playing the piano but it never made me feel like I was ready to give myself up to it. Once I returned to percussion I knew that was that."

Over the past three years Naveh has played with numerous music and dance ensembles around Israel and has even taught. "I play a lot of styles on a lot of instruments and it takes time to really find the niche you want to carve for yourself. At the moment, though, I like the variety and I do not want to specialize and limit myself."

She currently lives with her parents in Kfar Sava and the house is full of instruments. "It's not very convenient or comfortable, but it's temporary so we all manage together somehow."

Naveh was thrilled when she was approached by Eve's Women. "They were looking for a different color and I was looking for something new so it was a perfect match."

Yet she admits that her first rehearsals with the band were somewhat confusing, because "they don't have a musical director who has the last word on any artistic matter. There are four individual musicians and each has her own idea and point of view."

Naveh finds it impossible to pinpoint the band's exact musical style. "I think what makes it special is that there are no specific styles, rather a variety of styles. It is a band that plays above all jazz music, leaning more towards the Latin style, but I really cannot define our style in a few words."

So what lies in the future of these five women whose band is being invited to more and more concerts all over the world?

"We still want to expand and grow and we are looking for a singer now," Naveh says. "What we want is a singer who uses her voice as an instrument and who comes from the jazz and ethnic music world. Yes, of course, she would sing but that its not the point here. We simply want more color so that this singer can become one of us, and not a soloist accompanied by us."

Eve's Women performs this Saturday at the Tel Aviv Cinematheque as part of the *Jazz, Blues and Videotape* festival. They will host Brazilian musician Paulo Moura, "who is just one of the greatest musicians around," according to Orbach, in a special fusion that she hopes will open up the audience to a different kind of musical experience.

Barbie rocks to new sounds

By ERICA ZEITLIN-YAFFE

Prompted by sporadic clapping and a few impatient whistles, a young woman with a blonde ponytail and tight-fitting dress skips onto the stage at the new Barbie nightclub in Tel Aviv. She positions herself at the mike, adjusts its height and tests the sound.

"Hi, everyone," she begins. "My name is Yarona Caspi." The clapping grows louder at one end of the room and she recognizes a table of friends waving to her. With a trace of relief, she nods "ready" to her band members. Electric guitar, drums and keyboards all kick into action and before long, most of the crowd is snapping its fingers to the beat.

Infusing Tel Aviv nightlife with the first major rock-music club in years, Barbie introduces audiences to unknown bands and young singers who want to test out their talent and material. It is one of the only spots in Israel where musical newcomers get this chance. Originally opening its doors five years ago in a cramped venue near Tel Aviv's seashore, the reincarnated space on industrial Salame Street is unexpectedly airy and open.

Barbie's understated oriental and gothic decor meshes into something like a student hangout with a tad of yuppie sophistication. There is no Sheinkin "posa" here, no Cooler-Than-Thou bouncers standing at the door to filter out the fashion-*fashla* undesirables. This, after all, isn't a place to be seen but to be heard.

"Here it's the music that matters," club manager Shaul Mizrahi says. "We wanted Barbie to offer young artists a place to be heard. There's a lot of dynamism and life in original music."

At Barbie, you get personal contact with the musicians and a friendly hangout where you can imbibe the latest musical vibes and a beer. On a particularly good night, you may get treated to innovative alternatives to Israel's often derivative pop radio offerings.

Except for the veteran Logos club on Nahlat Binyamin's pedestrian mall, a smoky and intimate space that is now something of a Tel Aviv institution, the options open to unknown bands in the city have always been limited. Even Roxanne, the last successful effort to thrust unknown and alternative voices into the spotlight, closed down a few years ago.

Israeli pop stars such as Aviv Gefen, Eyfo Hayeled, Ziknei Tzfat and most recently, Hayehudim, all got their break by winning over small but devoted fans in Tel Aviv's live music clubs. At Barbie, today's unknowns could be tomorrow's success stories.

The musical offerings range in style quite a bit, according to Mizrahi.

The mixed bill tends to the alternative category, but "There are even religious musicians who come here regularly and draw a religious crowd," he says.

To keep afloat, the club also regularly brings in big names like Corinne Allal, Nimrod Lev, Eitan Berger and Eran Tzur, all of whom have recently strutted their stuff at Barbie – but it's the undiscovered new artists that give the club its real character and *raison d'être*.

There are often two different acts in a night, the first one starting around 10:30 and the second around midnight. Ticket prices are relatively affordable for a live show in Israel, and range from NIS 10 to NIS 60 according to the act.

Barbie is open nightly except for Shabbat. A simple menu of salads and toasts (from humous at around NIS 20 to NIS 40 for the Barbie salad built around halumi cheese), and a full bar are offered. For concert schedule and other information, call the nightclub at: (03) 681-6757.

Barbie, 40 Salame Street, Tel Aviv

AFTERHOURS

Music on my mind

Actor Dory Tepper lists the discs he'd want with him on a desert island



"The first time that I had an audience, and I felt the excitement of that incomparable tension, I knew that I had to be an actor," says Children's Channel star Dory Tepper.

Tepper speaks with the sort of inborn self-confidence that most actors strive to possess. Unlike most of his Children's Channel colleagues, Tepper didn't begin his acting career when he began to walk.

Originally, he was a musician. At seven, Tepper began playing classical and jazz piano, and he kept with it until he was 14.

"I stopped playing, I guess, because I didn't find myself in the piano," explains Tepper. But while serving in the IDF Spokesman's Office, he put his musical talents to use on *Gorodish* at the Cameri theater.

That was when he decided to be an actor. Graduating from the Nissan Nativ Acting Studio, he got both of the first jobs he auditioned for, a commercial and a TV series. He plays a young haredi man in the hit series *Tironut* ("Boot Camp"), now in its second season.

Eight months ago, Tepper called the management of the Children's Channel "and told them they had to meet me. There are few things that I am sure of in my life, but this was one of them ... I just knew I was perfect for it. The Children's Channel took him, and gave him his own show, *Mila Shelcha* ("Your Word").

But the stage is still important to Tepper. Currently he and a group of young actors are working on a show about autism.

"I've spent quite a bit of time with some autistics and discovered that they have an amazing world," he says.

But music is still in his bones, and if Tepper had to go to "a deserted island with only five discs," these are the ones he'd take.

1. ***A Kind of Blue*** (Miles Davis)

"This is, in my opinion, the No. 1 jazz record ever made. I've listened to it hundreds of times. This disc is the ultimate combination of musicians. I think that this specific disc had a big influence on music."

2 ***Requiem*** (Mozart)

"Uplifting. That's the word. It makes you tremble, it is very powerful and deep. I don't listen to a lot of classical music, maybe because my parents sort of forced it down my throat as a child, but this just grabbed me. I love it."

3. ***Red*** (King Crimson)

"In this album is the creation 'Starless,' I remember the first time that I ever really listened to music and felt that it took me somewhere, on entire journeys, it was [when I listened to] 'Starless.' I have gone through so much with this creation."

4. ***Bitch's Brew*** (Miles Davis)

"Again Miles Davis. This was the first Fusion album made. It sounds like a huge mess, and is very hard to understand, but the combination, again, of the musicians involved is amazing. This Jazz Fusion of the '70s is something that I really like."

5. ***Mysteries of Funk*** (Groove Rider)

"This is new, released recently. It is the ultimate sound in jungle music in my opinion. This is computerized music that proves that music is a frame of mind; you don't need a specific instrument to express yourself musically, you just need to feel the need."

-Sonie Lemor

Hot tips

By DAHLIA SCHEINDLIN

Tel Aviv

It was 10 years ago that the ***Jazz, Blues and Videotape*** festival began featuring international jazz performers alongside films that chronicle the jazz world. The festival is now a major contributor to the Tel Aviv jazz scene. Thursday night offers a perfect sample of the stuff that makes this event exciting. Music this evening ranges from Eli Magen performing a tribute to Bill Evans; the spunky Israeli fusion-jazz group Esta showing off the world premiere of its new disc; and Brazilian Paulo Mora playing Gershwin. A "student and teacher" show includes Israeli favorites such as Rafi Kadishson and his daughter, Yoni Rechter, Shem-Tov Levy, and others. This jazz celebration continues throughout the weekend, ending on Saturday night. Call the Cinematheque at (03) 691-7181 for show times and tickets.

The whole city seems to be inspired by the American musical beat. Tonight the **Blues, Heineken and Soul** series at the Enav Cultural Center offers stiff competition. **Paul deLay** from Oregon will play with Shlomo Mizrahi and the Roots, in a concert starting at 9:30 at Gan Ha'ir, (03) 521-7763.

The musical world of this pluralist city only gets more complex as the evening moves on. At 10:30 tonight, Camelot hosts "the unofficial ambassador of Arab music," British oud player **Aadel Salama**. This unusual visitor will also perform on Friday night and Sunday at the same time and place; the Enav Center at 9:30. Call the Camelot for more details, (03) 528-5222.

Moving from Arab music back to the west, the Israel Philharmonic will hold a special event on Saturday night – a concert celebrating 100 years since the birth of **George Gershwin**. The evening, entitled ***Porgy and Bess and All the Rest***, will be conducted by Arthur Post and performed at the Mann Auditorium, 8:30. (03) 525-1502.

Another interdisciplinary event is available as well – American musician **Elliot Sharp** accompanying poet **Roni Somek**. The two will play selections from their disc, which was recently chosen as Disc of the Year by *Wire* magazine. The evening takes the odd title of ***The Revenge of the Boy Who Stuttered***. Tonight at 26 Bialik, starting at 8. Call (03) 525-3907.

Tomorrow, an interesting seminar by Gideon Samet of *Ha'aretz* takes place at the Tel Aviv Museum on the topic of **Culture and Communications**, specifically on the theme of Love and Hate. The event includes a screening of the film *Citizen Kane*. Call the museum for details.

Stick around on Saturday for the **Shabbat Supplement**, a stage of culture and current events, at 11 a.m., at the Tel Aviv Museum. Participants include: Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani, Gila Almagor and Eitan Even, Ido Tadmor, and Daniel Gortler. Call (03) 518-7002.

The pop entertainment of the weekend is Israeli popular music master **Shlomo Artzi**, performing at Tzavta 1, on Saturday at 9 p.m.

The somber work has been saved for Sunday night, when ***Ticket To Paradise***, the play that examines the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin, is performed at Tzavta 1 starting at 8:30.

Jerusalem

English theater abounds tonight with the Tall Poppy Company's version of ***The Glass Menagerie***. Under the direction of Kelly Hartog, the play will be performed at the Gerard Behar Center twice, at 6 and 9. Call (02) 566-5002.

Not much Hebrew is needed on Saturday night for the new production ***Temptations*** by Triangle Theater, that includes pantomime and music. Starts at 9 p.m. at the Pargod Theater.

The entertainment at the Pargod begins tonight, however, with **Amir Lev** performing at 9:30. (02) 625-8819.

The music goes on with ***Man and Woman*** on Saturday night. Shelli Sherman sings to the accompaniment of Igor Poretsky on keyboard and accordion – an intimate evening of humor, song, dance and acting, 8:30 at the Bible Lands Museum. (02) 561-1066.

And Points Beyond

Light, good, clean fun is the weekend's theme in other areas of the country. Givatayim Theater holds a ***Marathon of Storytelling*** tonight, hosted by Yossi Alfi, a longtime theatrical figure and the director of the Givatayim venue. Starts at 8, 40 Remez Street. (03) 529-0607

And speaking of light, the impressively successful, English-speaking group LOGON (Light Opera Group of the Negev) has another musical for Anglo audiences. ***The Pajama Game*** considers labor issues in a humorous way, at the Wix Auditorium, Rehovot, tonight at 8:30 p.m. Call (08) 946-1385 or (03) 909-1372. Native Israelis are also welcome; there will be Hebrew subtitles.

Weekender Food&Drink



(L.A. Times)

High (stew) time

By RUSS PARSONS

The rule for cooking stews is "low and slow." But some rules are made to be broken.

Lately, I've been playing with stews cooked "high and slow," and the results have been fabulous. There's nothing like a couple of hours at 230° to tenderize even the toughest piece of meat.

That probably sounds shocking to experienced cooks. Indeed, when I first wrote about the technique, using a leg of lamb, I called several meat scientists to see what they thought. They thought I was crazy.

But there is no arguing with the taste of that lamb. Cooked to the point that the meat is moist and falling off the bone in pieces, it is utterly delicious. When I tried cooking the same recipe the traditional way – at 160° – for the same time, the meat seemed overcooked, tight and dry.

A couple of weekends ago, I picked up what my supermarket called a round-bone steak. It looked like a big chunk of chuck, maybe 5 cm. thick. I was going to pot-roast it, so I browned the meat on both sides and put it in the Dutch oven with some aromatics and a bottle of wine. Just before I put it in to roast, I thought, "What the heck," and turned the temperature up to 230°.

I checked it every half hour or so, turning the meat to keep both sides moist and occasionally stirring the liquid that was rapidly turning into a glaze. After three hours, the meat next to the bone was fork-tender; the outer edges could only be described as spoon-tender.

The flavor was what was amazing. The meat was tangy and beefy. The wine and aromatics had reduced to a fragrant glaze. It was like getting all of the good sticky bits that coat the bottom of a braising pan, only more so.

How does this happen? I can't say for sure, but I have some ideas.

FIRST you have to consider the piece of meat. Generally, you roast meats that do little work during the animal's life and braise or stew meats that are heavily used.

The reason you treat these cuts differently is because the more the muscles are worked, the more collagen is developed. Collagen is one of the components of the tough connective tissues that surround not only muscles but also the strands of fiber within the muscles and even the cell walls that make up those strands.

Although this connective tissue is unpleasant stuff normally, when it's cooked with moist heat, magic happens. Beginning at about 60°, the connective tissue begins to break down – or at least the collagen in it does. Instead of being stringy and tough, it becomes soft and moist.

But that happens whether that temperature is reached slowly or quickly. So what's the magic of high-heat braising? Based on my previous conversations with the meat scientists, I'd guess it's a combination of a couple of things.

First, the high heat turns the liquid in the Dutch oven to steam much more quickly.

The moist heat penetrates the meat and converts the connective tissue and melts the interior fat much earlier than it would otherwise. This keeps the meat moist through the cooking process.

At the same time, certain enzymes kick in at moderate temperatures during the cooking of meat that can contribute to a dry texture. Heating the meat this quickly also might be bypassing them.

Finally, when meat is cooked for a very long time, the individual protein strands within the muscles link up and harden, squeezing out moisture. Cooked this quickly, those strands may be hardening before they begin to link up, again keeping the meat moist.

Just to make sure this really works, I tried it again, with a couple of twists. First, I marinated the meat overnight in red wine, kind of like a French "daube," to give it a heartier flavor. Then, when the meat was done cooking, I strained out the braising vegetables to give it a more refined finish.

Neither improvement was an unqualified success. The wine did give a deeper flavor to the beef, but the overnight soak allowed the meat to buffer the acidity in the wine, reducing its tang. I added half a cup of red wine vinegar to fix that.

And although straining the bits and pieces of (by now) deeply browned carrots and onions gave me a more elegant presentation, there were those around my table who detected a fractional loss of flavor. Neither change is essential; let your tastebuds be your guide.

As for your instincts telling you to lower the oven temperature? Ignore them.

MUSHROOM POT ROAST

1 (1½-2 kilo) chuck roast
salt
1 (750-ml.) bottle dry red wine
3 Tbsp. olive oil
½ kilo onions, sliced
6 cloves garlic, crushed
¼ kilo carrots, sliced
1 stalk celery
1 bay leaf
parsley stems
1 whole clove
½ cup red wine vinegar
2 Tbsp. margarine or butter
½ kilo mushrooms, quartered
freshly ground black pepper
¼ cup finely chopped parsley

Sprinkle roast with salt to taste on both sides and place in sealable plastic bag.

Add red wine, seal tightly and refrigerate 8 hours or overnight, turning occasionally to make sure all of the meat is covered with wine.

Heat olive oil in bottom of Dutch oven over medium-high heat. Remove roast from bag, reserving wine, and pat roast dry with paper towels. Place roast in Dutch oven and brown well on both sides, 5-10 mins. per side.

Remove roast to plate, pour off all but 1 Tbsp. rendered fat from Dutch oven and reduce heat to medium. Add onions, 4 cloves garlic and carrots and cook until slightly softened, about 5 mins.

Cut celery in half and tie together both stalks along with bay leaf and parsley stems.

Insert clove in celery package to make bouquet garni.

Add bouquet garni and reserved wine to vegetables and simmer 5 mins.

Add meat and vinegar, cover Dutch oven with tight-fitting lid and place in 230° oven. Cook until meat is easily pierced with sharp fork, 2 to 2½ hours. Every 30 minutes, turn meat and stir liquid mixture. If liquid begins to dry out, add up to 1 cup water, a little at a time, to keep from scorching.

When meat is fork-tender and falling off bone, remove to plate and cover with aluminum foil to keep warm. Pour liquid through strainer into bowl, pressing vegetables to get as much liquid as possible and discarding vegetables. Set aside until fat floats to top. Wash out Dutch oven, pour off fat from settled liquid and return meat and liquid to pan. Keep warm over low heat.

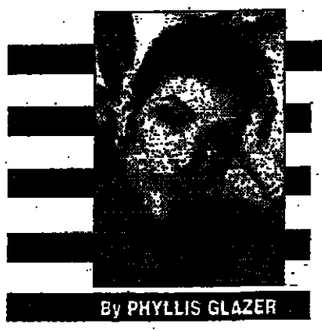
Melt margarine or butter in large skillet over medium-high heat. When it has foamed and subsided, add mushrooms and remaining 2 cloves garlic and cook, tossing, until lightly browned, about 5 mins.

Add mushrooms to pot roast and cook 15 mins. over low heat to marry flavors.

Season to taste with salt and pepper and garnish with parsley. (6-8 servings)

(Los Angeles Times)

> Most of us rarely run our ovens at 230° for more than a short time. When you do, make sure it is clean. A bright flash in the oven midway through cooking this high-temperature pot roast, said the Los Angeles Times Test Kitchen staff, is normal. The culprit: a greasy oven interior that flames for an instant when it gets extremely hot.



Phyllis's Tips

By PHYLLIS GLAZER

No Tofu for You (Awful)

As a tofu lover, I am happy to see how many new companies have started tofu production. Unfortunately, not all of them know how to make tofu.

Traditionally, tofu is made with soy beans that produce soy milk, and a curdling agent like nigari. In American Tofu's tofu, there's also oil and salt. I guess that's what makes it too salty, and gives it the horrible flaky consistency that makes it fall apart.

Sorry guys, either something was wrong with the batch that should have lasted till December 1, 1999, or you had better go back to Tofu school. NIS 28 per kilo.

Creme Fraiche (Very Good)

It's not hard to make your own Creme Fraiche at home. (It's like a super rich sour cream, only not as sour). But now you don't have to bother. Tnuva is making Creme Fraiche that is both delicious and reasonably priced. Creme Fraiche is perfect for thickening hot sauces, or adding a creamy taste to cooked vegetables and dressings. You can use it for baking, cakes, and desserts, or alongside fresh fruit like strawberries. You won't want to use too much too often however, since it does contain a whopping 42% fat. Tnuva wil also be selling 32% whipping cream and 15% cream for cooking. The creme fraiche comes in 150 ml containers and sells for NIS 5.50.

Light Sour Cream (No!)

It's like going from the sublime to the ridiculous. As much as I like their creme fraiche, that's how much I dislike Tnuva's new "light" sour cream with fruit. With so many good yogurt products around with lower fat contents, why would I want "light" sour cream, especially with crushed strawberries or banana in it?

The new development comes as a result of market research which showed that Israelis like to eat strawberries and bananas with sour cream. But does this mean they like crushed sweetened fruit in their sour cream? I'll bet they don't. Especially not 8% sour cream!

When I want to use sour cream, I'll use the real thing, thank you. And when I want fruit flavored dairy products, I'll go for yogurt.

Sold in 150 gr. containers at NIS 1.85 for the regular and NIS 2.40 with the addition of fruit.

Yummy Cheese Products for Babies (Okay)

When Strauss's "Gamadim" flavored soft cheese products hit the market, they were enthusiastically received. Cute and small, with tasty sweetened white cheese inside, the Gamadim have no artificial colorings. (What a relief!)

Now Tnuva is offering its own version of Gamadim, but intended for infants, not for children. The company has invested $2 million to develop, manufacture and release the "Yummy" product line. Enriched with vitamins, calcium and enzymes, Yummy also has the popular "Bio" probiotic bacteria addition – and is designed for ages 6 months to 3 years.

The "first level" product for 6 month olds is white Yummy sweetened with fructose. From 9 months, you can serve Yummy with Banana or with Apple and Pear. From one year – you can add Yummy strawberry. While these products are "convenient" and "okay," you can't compare them with the goodness of giving real fresh fruit. I'm skeptical about convenience products, especially for a baby.

I would also not give a baby non-organic strawberries. A package of four 75 ml cups sells for NIS 6.50.

Hot Soups from Heinz (Okay)

Having grown up on Heinz vegetarian beans, I can attest to their quality and taste. The company's canned red beans, just recently made available to the Israeli public, are a wonderful quick addition to soups and salads.

Their soups are another story, however. We tried the Tomato Soup and Mushroom Soup. The 304 gr. cans of concentrated soup (serving 4) cost NIS 5.89. The first one had a starchy artificial taste. The tomato soup, although not very tasty as a soup (water-based), made a good addition to Sloppy Joes (an American ground beef or ground soya dish). Remembering my childhood experience with Campbells, I added milk to the mushroom soup instead of water, which made it tastier.

The ingredients are not listed in English, and the Hebrew version of the mushroom soup label contains monosodium glutamate (sensitive people beware!). I think I'll stick to their beans.

Back

By PHYLLIS GLAZER

What should we Israelis be doing about iodine intake, since most salt is iodized here, and I imagine there's a healthier way to satisfy our daily requirement? Also is it true that the agent that keeps the salt free-flowing contains aluminum or other unhappy ingredients?
Lila Julius, Kfar Kisch

Fish, and particularly seafood, are a source of iodine. Adult daily iodine requirement is believed to be 110-150 mg, while growing children and pregnant or lactating women may need more. And if you consume a diet high in salt from other dietary sources, it does not necessarily mean that the salt used in manufacturing was iodized. Aluminum calcium silicate is generally added to salt to make it free-running. The FDA gives it a Generally Regarded As Safe status. Kosher salt does not have that addition, and you can grind it in a coffee grinder if you're not using it in cooking.

What is "chard" in Hebrew?
– Ofelia Dzalozinsky, Bat-Yam

Some people call chard *alei selek* (beet greens – which they aren't), and another name for them is *mangold*.

How does one make mayonnaise? Do you know of a book that teaches how to make everyday staples (like butter, pickles, peanut butter)?
– Moshe Schaeffer, Jerusalem

Although homemade mayonnaise tastes better than store-bought, it's not a good idea to make your own since it is preferable not to make foods using raw eggs. DL makes a wonderful natural mayonnaise.

You can make butter by beating fresh cream (not *shamenet amida* which has undergone a special process) till it turns into butter.

My favorite sour pickles are made by placing small well-washed cucumbers in a glass mason jar, measuring cold water cup for cup, and adding a teaspoon of salt for each cup of water. I also like to add a few garlic cloves, a sprig or two of fresh dill and a few teaspoons of vinegar. I put the jar on the windowsill or in the garden in the sun for about 2 days till they pickle.

Peanut butter can be made by toasting peanuts in the oven on medium heat (about 180°), removing the outer brown covering and grinding in the blender or food processor. It's difficult to make it without adding a little oil, but you can use part oil and part water to cut down on fat.

I don't really understand why you want to make such staples since they're easily available and many are also without additives. I know of no one book which would have all those things, but there's a recipe for almond or casbew butter in my first book *Hagiga Tzimhonit* ("A Vegetarian Feast") and a recipe for things like pickles and various other basics in my latest book *Mehamitbah shel Phyllis* ("Phyllis' Kitchen"), published by Keter.

Foreign foods taste better than they sound

By CHARLES PERRY

It annoys linguists, and believe it or not, that includes me, when people say that words for beautiful things don't necessarily have an attractive sound. J.R.R. Tolkien once observed that "cellar door" is rather beautiful than "beautiful."

To illustrate, here's a selection of European foods that taste a lot better than they sound. Try grits, sure.

Blaaw, Swedish for bilberry, a sort of blueberry.

Blawa fish and bloater, English names of dried fish.

Bondepiga med slor, a Danish apple brown betty made with rye bread and topped with jam.

Brandade, a German fried meatball.

Bubertz, a Latvian pudding.

Cacalaus, a Provencal dish of snails served on Christmas Eve.

Cipaille, a Canadian meat pie.

Cockaleekie, an English soup.

Crepe Normandaise, crepe filled with apple, in English.

Dick Hall, a Danish Swedish dish of fish and onion pickled in paper.

Eggs Stockholm, a Swedish dish of eggs and assorted vegetables.

Millirety, pie in Quebec, pie in Ontario, meat pie in Maine and entrails.

Rhet smor, Danish beaten butter.

Scad, stead, stadt, varieties of Northern fish.

Skum saus, a Norwegian sauce often served with pancakes.

Slemp, a sort of mush made occasionally served in the Netherlands on St. Nicholas Day.

Stelle, An Irish dish of potatoes and cabbage, also known as champ.

Svid, Icelandic boiled sheep's head.

Wenig kraplen, a Viennese dish of pig's ears.

(Los Angeles Times)

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأعلى

Weekender Travel



The walk to the ancient site at Gamla is an easy downhill stroll from the entrance of the park, but it is a long and difficult climb back up.
(Richard Nowitz)



The dolmens are believed to be the burial places of residents who inhabited the area thousands of years before the Romans or Jews.
(Israel Talby)



Israel Talby

At the site you can clearly see the remains of the ancient synagogue (left) and the piles of round stones (above) the Romans catapulted into the town during their attack.

Day Tripper

By Haim Shapiro

Gamla, the Jewish fortified town in the Golan Heights destroyed by the Roman Vespasian, has been likened to Masada. It is closely related to the resistance to the Romans. But does it have any connection to Christianity?

The site itself is beautiful, especially in the spring when the flowers are blooming and the nearby waterfall is still flowing with full force. For those not acquainted with the site, it is located on a ridge overlooking Lake Kinneret.

The walk to the waterfall is an easy one, and on the way you can admire the dolmens, arrangements of three huge rocks, each in the form of a table. These are believed to be the burial places of residents who inhabited the area thousands of years before the Romans or the Jews ever set foot there.

Near the waterfall are a number of stations where you can observe the vultures that make their nests in the wall of the cliff.

The walk to the ancient site is an easy downhill stroll from the entrance of the Gamla National Park, but it is a long and difficult climb back up. It is, however, worth the effort. You can clearly see the remains of the ancient synagogue and the piles of round stones the Romans catapulted into the town during their attack. It is also possible to see that the houses were built in terraces, with the roof of one forming part of the floor of the one above it, just as in modern Israeli construction.

THE site's link to Christianity is more ambiguous. I pondered over this connection after receiving a very handsome booklet published by the Golan Tourist Association entitled *A Golan Pilgrim's Companion* by Yadin Roman, editor of *Eretz* magazine.

Sites such as Kursi and Beth-Saida are specifically mentioned in the New Testament, but what about Gamla? Roman's answer provides not just an interesting interpretation of the New Testament, but an insight into Jewish history.

Roman sees Gamla as the personification of the Jewish yearning for the Messiah circa the first century CE. He explains that Judah of Gamla, the leader of the revolt against the Roman rulers, was known as Judas the Galilean in the New Testament's Book of Acts. It was the same Judah who, according to Josephus, was the leader of the Zealots, also known as the Sicarii, who believed that the kingdom of God had commenced and that redemption would come only if the Jews rebelled against their pagan oppressors.

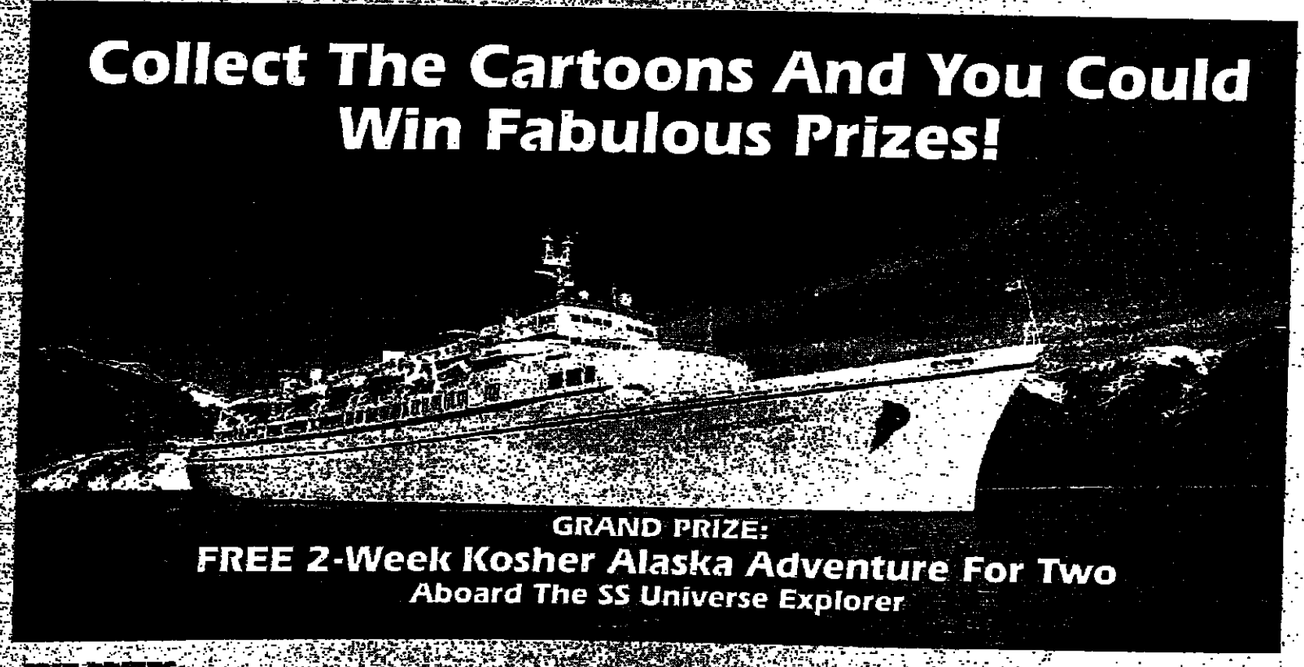
The author argues that the Romans felt they had to subdue Gamla because it was the home of the leader of the rebellion. The battle was fierce, and when the Jews saw that the Romans had won, they gathered at the highest point in the city – men, women and children – and leapt to their deaths.

It was in the context of this revolt, Roman says, that some of the best-known sayings of Jesus were uttered. Thus, it was the Zealots' refusal to pay taxes to the Roman pagans that led Jesus to say, "Render unto Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's."

It is also in reference to the Zealots that Jesus said, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God." For Roman, this is a clear refutation of the teaching that the kingdom of heaven can be achieved through fighting and bloodshed.

The Gamla National Park is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Entry is NIS 17 for adults, NIS 8 for children.

Collect The Cartoons And You Could Win Fabulous Prizes!



GRAND PRIZE:
FREE 2-Week Kosher Alaska Adventure For Two
Aboard The SS Universe Explorer

THE PRIZES:
GRAND PRIZE: ALASKA ADVENTURE
The Grand Prize Drawing will be held on March 10, 1999.
The winner's name will be published in the March 11 edition of The Jerusalem Post.
The Alaska Adventure includes:
1) Two free round-trip Tel Aviv-Vancouver airline tickets
2) Free cabin for two aboard the SS Universe Explorer, departing Vancouver June 1 and returning June 15, 1999.
3) All shipboard meals and port taxes.
4) World-renowned nature guides and speakers on Jewish topics.
5) Glatt Kosher and Chalav Yisrael cabin to under the supervision of the Jerusalem Beth Din.

OTHER PRIZES:
Starting February 10 and continuing until March 10, 1999, one fully completed entry form will be drawn each day and awarded a beautiful cartoon coffee book from Steimatzky. The names of the winners will be published daily in the newspaper. Daily prize winners remain eligible for the Grand Prize Drawing.

THE CONTEST:
Every day for the next 6 weeks, (January 22 - March 4) The Jerusalem Post will print one of the six cartoon coupons - shown to the right - in the newspaper. Collect a different cartoon coupon each day, by cutting it out and pasting it on the entry form. When all 6 cartoons have been attached to the corresponding spaces on the form, send to:
Alaska c/o The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000.
You will then be eligible to win fabulous prizes.

Contest Entry Form
Collect the 6 different cartoon coupons that will appear in The Jerusalem Post from January 22 - March 4 1999, attach them to the corresponding spaces on the entry form below and send to: Alaska c/o The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem, 91000. You may enter as many times as you wish. All entries must reach The Jerusalem Post by March 8, 1999. Only fully-completed forms will be entered into the draw. No photocopies or faxes will be accepted.



Name .....
Address .....
City .....
Tel: (day) .....(evening) .....
I currently subscribe to The Jerusalem Post ☐ Yes ☐ No

Jerusalem Post employees and their family members are ineligible. The terms and conditions of this contest may differ from those in the North American Edition.

For information and bookings on the Alaska Adventure contact: Ofra at Tel: 03 5101696 Fax: 03 5102091 or any Ophir Tours office. Price is from $1500 per person (cabin of 4) not including airfare and port taxes.

Weekender Leisure

It's in the jeans



Flair

By GREER FAY CASHMAN

Trends may come and trends may go, but jeans are here forever. Anyone who needs proof should take a glance around the street, the bus, the synagogue or even check out a local wedding party. Almost everywhere you go, people are wearing jeans. Unlike some other fashions, jeans bridge gender and generation gaps with ease and are found in the closets of toddlers, teens and adults.

Though Levi's will always be able to claim credit as the originators of brand-name jeans, there are so many other labels associated with this particular category of clothing that its future is definitely assured. Some of the internationally recognized labels include Calvin Klein, Stefanel, Ralph Lauren, Lee, Wrangler, Timberland, Diesel and Versace.

Often the difference between two almost identical pairs of jeans is not in the workmanship or the quality of the fabric, but whether the labels are upmarket, middle-market or downmarket.

After all, no one would expect to pay the same for Versace as they do for Lee.

Several brands of jeans and other items of clothing are produced by VF, the American textile conglomerate that has been operating in Israel and elsewhere in the Middle East for just over a year. Last week, VF Israel showed the new spring-summer collections of Wrangler and Lee jeans to a large audience of buyers who are going to merchandise them all over the country.

Given that most jeans, whether skin-tight or wide-legged, have hip yokes, layered pockets, fly fronts and heavy stitching, it's not all that easy to make a jeans collection look interesting. It becomes doubly difficult when most of the tops they're paired with are plain T-shirts, polo shirts or golf shirts.

So, to add spice to the presentation at the Tel Aviv Hilton, VF employed several dancers who emulated monkeys as they leapt from a backdrop of scaffolding onto the stage.

Whoever continues to associate jeans with the stiff, sturdy fabric of work clothes would have been surprised at the unfettered agility of the dancers.

The choice was gratifying – from the traditional blue, to beiges, browns, greens, black and white. The pants were cut straight, baggy, hipster, flare – you name it.



There were sloppy Bermudas, finely striped dungarees, cuffed capris, romper suits and little blue denim short shorts that were a hybrid of the innocent and the profane.

Of the tops, the most interesting were embroidered rodeo shirts and printed slip tops. It was fascinating to see how loose hanging T-shirts and golf shirts developed an instantly smart appearance when tucked into belted waist-bands.

The wonderful thing about jeans is that you can wear them forever without feeling self-conscious. On the contrary, once you've paraded in a dressy outfit a dozen or so times you start worrying that everyone you know has seen it.





Basic Blues:
From the Wrangler and Lee spring-summer collections



Bridge

Romance at the [illegible]e

By MATTHEW GRANOVETTER

South dealer
North-South in love

North (She)
♠4 3 2
♥K
♦A K Q 6 5 2
♣A Q J

West	East
♠K	♠Q 10 8 5
♥9 6 5	♥8 7 4 3 2
♦J 10 9 8 7 4 3	♦-
♣7 3	♣9 8 6 5

South (He)
♠A J 9 7 6
♥A Q J 10
♦-
♣K 10 4 2

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	3 ♦	double	pass
3 ♥	pass	4 NT	pass
5 NT	pass	7 ♠	(all pass)

Opening lead: ♦J

One of the best reasons for unmarried people to play bridge is that a night out at the duplicate bridge club makes for the perfect date.

For at least three to four hours you can stare across the table at the gal or guy you are courting and converse between hands. And if you are shy, you can simply stick to bridge jargon. Indeed, if you play a hand better than the rest of the field, he/she will be very pleased to be your partner and it may even set the stage for bigger things to come.

Today's deal comes from a New York duplicate game played many years ago on February 29 – Sadie Hawkins Day (the day when it's customary for women to ask men for their hand in marriage).

North-South were a young couple on their fourth date and the South player, a young man, had the romantic notion of asking her to marry him after the game – if all went well at the bridge table, that is.

The bidding, however, did not go well for South, and he couldn't help but notice a very unhappy face across the table when he pulled his partner's penalty double of three diamonds. No doubt North was frustrated, but she resolved to bid a slam anyway. She bid Blackwood, but heard the strange reply of five notrump.

This was a mistake on South's part. He was trying to be scientific, showing two aces and a void with his five-notrump bid. She misread it and, shrugging her shoulders, put her partner into an impossible grand slam. "Make it!" she said, as she put the dummy down, each diamond hitting the table with a thud.

Poor South was in trouble. How could he make all 13 tricks with that trump suit? He said a silent prayer and covered the jack of diamonds with the queen. East ruffed with the 5 of spades and he overruffed with the 6. He led a heart to dummy's king and then played the king of diamonds. East ruffed again, this time with the 8 of spades. South overruffed with the 9 and noticed his partner's quizzical look: "This was a funny way to draw trumps."

Back he went to dummy with a club to the ace and now he led the ace of diamonds. East ruffed this time with the 10 of spades and he overruffed with the jack. Finally he led the ace of spades and down came the king and queen! It was a miracle, as North's eyes lit up in admiration of her partner's style.

Little did she realize that East was the catalyst in this adventure. Had East refused to ruff or ruffed with the queen at any point, the slam would have failed. But her hero made the slam, and he didn't have to pop the question – she proposed to him!

Matthew Granovetter can be reached by e-mail at matt@bridgetoday.com.

Chess

Garry Kasparov polls a deserving #2

By NIGEL SHORT

THERE were no major surprises in the first substantial chess poll to be conducted on the Internet; the strongest chessplayer in the world was voted the most likely winner of this year's Hoogovens tournament in Holland. And Garry Kasparov came a distant second.

By now even Garry might have noticed that he has something of a credibility problem; how can he justify calling himself world champion when he has not defended his title since 1995 and he is (rightly) perceived to be Vishy Anand's inferior in tournament play?

Garry has a very powerful and impressive personality, but do not be deceived by his macho-sounding declaration, "I challenge Anand to challenge me!" It is a call made from a position of great weakness, which Anand would be unwise to accept. If the Indian does not take up the gauntlet, and he almost certainly has more sense, Kasparov will have no obvious escape from a mire of his own making.

As for Hoogovens, no one knows what will happen, but my money is on a dramatic finish. The early leader, however, was Anand, who won this nicely played game in the second round against Jeroen Piket, one of the home contingent.

White: Vishy Anand
Black: Jeroen Piket
Hoogovens, 17.01.99

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5. Jeroen, almost invariably these days, defends the Spanish Opening, of which he has a good general knowledge. He is not noted, however, for contributing much to the development of its theory, being usually content to follow established lines.

3. ...a6 4. Ba4 Nf6 5. 0–0 Be7 6. Re1 b5 7. Bb3 d6 8. c3 0–0 9. h3 Na5 10. Bc2 c5 11. d4 Nd7. A continuation with which Paul Keres racked up several points during the 1962 Curacao Candidates Tournament, most memorably in a brilliant game against Mikhail Tal. Subsequently improvements have been found for White and today it is no longer particularly fashionable, which is perhaps a good reason for trying it.

12. Nbd2 cxd4 13. cxd4 Nc6 14. Nb3. In the above-mentioned encounter Tal tried 14. a3?! exd4 15. Nb3 Nde5 16. Nfxd4 Bf6 and after the inaccurate 17. Bd2?! Nxd4 18. Nxd4 Nd3! found himself in a difficult situation.

14. ...a5 15. Bd3 Ba6 16. d5 Nb4 17. Bf1 a4.

(See diagram)

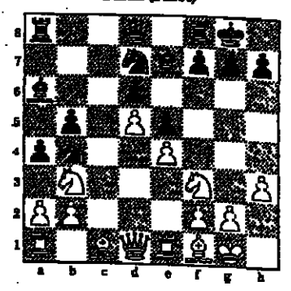
18. Nbd4!? Alas, this move is not blessed with originality but it is interesting none the less. The clumsy position of the b4 knight makes this audacious self-immolation possible. 18. ...exd4 19. a3 Nxd5?!

For better or for worse Black had to plunge into the complications beginning with 19. ...Nc5 possibly leading to (A) 20. Nxd4 Bf6 21. axb4 (21. Be3 Bxd4 22. Bxd4 Nb3 23. axb4 Nxa1 24. Qg4 f6 25. Rxa1 offers good compensation but a rook is a rook.) 21. ...Bxd4 22. bxc5 dxc5 with a big mess; or (B) 20. axb4 20. ...Nb3 21. Rb1 Qb6 with the idea of planting a rook on c4 with the greatest of speed. Not an easy position to judge without further analysis.

20. exd5 Bf6 21. Nxd4 Nc5 22. Ne6 the knight makes its presence felt in a most uncomfortable manner. 22. ...Qb6 23. Bf4! Rfe8 23. ...Bxb2 24. Ra2 Bc3 25. Re3 Bf6 26. Bxd6 is nasty. 24. Qc2 Nb3 25. Rad1 Qc7 26. Re4! A by no means obvious way of increasing the initiative.

26. ...Rxe4 27. Qxe4 Bxb2 28. Re1 Qd7 29. Qb4. Protecting and attacking simultaneously. 29. ...Bf6 30. Bxd6 h6 31. Bd3. The difference in activity is striking; the a6 bishop is particularly miserably placed.

Black (Piket)



White (Anand) to play

The position after Piket's 17th move

31. ...Re8 32. Rxe8+ Qxe8 33. Be7 Bb2 34. Qe4 g6 35. Bb4 Qxe4.

The endgame offers not the slightest respite but there was no better alternative. 36. Bxe4 Bf6 37. d6 Be8 38. Bd3 Bd7 39. Nb8 Be6 40. Bxb5 Nd4 41. Bxa4.

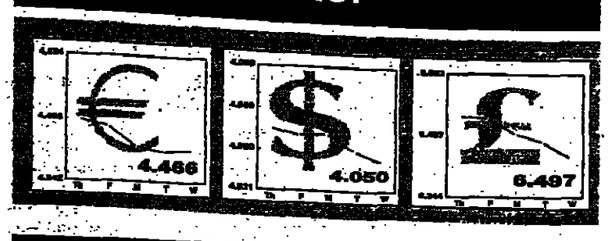
One by one they fall. Recognising the futility of further resistance Piket called it a day.

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Today's shekel



In brief

Canada's trade minister arrives today

Canadian International Trade Minister, Sergio Marchi, arrives in Israel today as the head of a business delegation representing 40 Canadian companies doing business in the region. His three-day stay in Israel is part of a larger Middle East mission which includes stops in Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Gaza and the West Bank.

"In 1998 Canada's exports to Israel totalled more than C$200 million," Marchi said. "This mission is an opportunity for Canadian businesses to build on existing partnerships and to further expand into a region that holds great promise economically." Canadian companies trading with Israel are particularly interested in telecommunications, information technologies, agri-food, engineering, construction, education and training. During his visit Marchi will meet Israel's trade minister to review the two-year-old Canada Israel Free Trade Agreement (CIFTA) to explore ways to improve trade relations between the two countries. Bilateral trade has grown by 40 percent since the implementation of CIFTA. *Nicky Blackburn*

InnoWave wins $3.5m Atlantic Telecom deal

InnoWave Tadiran Telecommunications Wireless Systems has received a $3.5 million order from Atlantic Telecom, a subsidiary of the UK company Atlantic Telecom Group, it was announced yesterday. The order will significantly expand Atlantic Telecom's use of MultiGain Wireless (MGW) access systems in Scotland. Already Atlantic Telecom, one of the new telephone companies licensed by the British government to provide fixed telephone services, has installed InnoWave systems in the Scottish cities of Glasgow, Aberdeen and Dundee. Now it plans to extend its coverage to Edinburgh and Greater Glasgow. InnoWave, a subsidiary of Tadiran Telecommunications, is a global leader in fixed wireless access systems and wireless local loop products and solutions. "The MGW's enhanced network management and provisioning system allows Atlantic to efficiently control its Scottish based wireless networks," said Haim Rosen, president and CEO of Tadiran Telecom, and chairman of the board at InnoWave, which is based in Petah Tikvah. *Nicky Blackburn*

Internet Gold launches new portal

Internet Gold launched its new Internet portal yesterday at the Internet World Exhibition held in Tel Aviv. The portal, called Zahav (gold) cost $250,000 and took six months to set up according to Eli Holtzman, CEO of the company. "This is more than a portal," said Holtzman. "It's a place where you come in and stay." The portal, which can be personalized by users, is aimed specifically at the Israeli market and competes with similar channels from Walla and Israel on Line. Internet Gold, an Internet provider set up two years ago, is owned by Eurocom Communications. It presently has some 100,000 subscribers and, according to a study by IDC Israel, has a 31 percent share of the market. PelePhone, one of Israel's three cellular telephone providers, has shown interest in buying the controlling stake of the company at an estimated price of $[illegible] million, said [illegible] plans to invest heavily in the new portal in the [illegible]. *Nicky Blackburn*

Comverse supplies systems to Orange

Comverse Network Systems, the world's leading supplier of enhanced services platforms to communications network operators, has won a contract to supply systems to UK cellular telephone network, Orange, worth several million dollars. Orange plans to use the technology to support the deployment of the company's Every Phone system, a call direction service. It is the first time that Orange has worked with Comverse, a division of Comverse Technologies. If a subscriber to the Every Phone service cannot take a call, the Comverse system automatically defaults to the subscribers' voice mailbox, where callers can leave a message. "The Comverse-based Every Phone service is more sophisticated than a call answering service," said Kobi Alexander, chairman, president and CEO of Comverse Technology. "It provides an advanced value-added service which increases subscribers' personal reachability and provides easy-to-use self-provisioning." *Nicky Blackburn*

Dassault plans split-up

PARIS (Reuters) – A plan to split aircraft company Dassault Aviation into military and civil subsidiaries will go to shareholders in the next few weeks, deputy chairman and finance director Charles Edelstenne said yesterday.

The reorganization will be presented "in the next few weeks" to the works council, the two main shareholders, and the government in order to make the changes during 1999, he told reporters and analysts after the group reported 1998 results.

Dassault is separating its defense and civil activities to prepare for alliances, he said, confirming an interview given by chairman Serge Dassault in *Le Figaro* newspaper on Monday.

Edelstenne also said Dassault is dropping plans for a supersonic version of its Falcon business jet, as the company has not been able to find the right engine.

For the time being, only Dassault Aviation, the holding group which will control the two companies, will be quoted, Edelstenne said. He added it is not excluded that if the market float is increased, the shares could be listed in New York.

"For the moment, we do not have plans to list the two subsidiaries, only Dassault Aviation," he said.

Under the plan, the group's factories will be put into one of the two subsidiaries depending on the principal activity, but will retain their current operations.

ISRAEL ELECTRIC
חברת החשמל
TENDERS

The Israel Electric Corporation invites bids for the supply of the following goods:
Tender No. 715498 – Supply of Conduits and Extensions
Cost of Tender Documents (including VAT): NIS 2,405
Quantities: As stated in the tender documents
Contract period: Two years, with option by Israel Electric to extend it for another year.

Last date for submitting bids: March 28, 1999 at 11 a.m.

Pre-conditions for participation in the tender:
A. Submission of a personal check for 5% of the bid as a guarantee.
B. Participation in the tender is also subject to compliance with the pre-conditions detailed in the Tender Regulations 1993, Para. 6(a) 1, 2, 3 (i.e., registration as required by law, compliance with mandatory specifications, and the holding of the permits required by law for transactions with public bodies).
C. The Israel Electric Corporation reserves the right to allow a bidder who has not provided some required relevant documents, permits, licenses, etc., to submit them within a time that will be set by the Corporation.

The tender documents may be obtained Sunday - Thursday, at the Market Research and Tenders Department, 11 Sderot Pal-Yam, Haifa, between 9 a.m. and 12 noon, on submission of a receipt, demonstrating payment for the documents (non-returnable) into the Corporation's account at the Postal Bank. Payment slips for making such payments are obtainable at the above address by calling 04-868-7455/4.
Before purchasing the tender documents, potential bidders may peruse them, Sunday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-12 noon, at the above offices or at the Sales Department, 90 Rehov Yigal Allon, Tel Aviv, Ashdar Building, entrance C, 1st floor, Tel. 03-565-4679, 03-565-4641. (An appointment to peruse the documents must be made beforehand with the Sales Department.)
Bids should be submitted in a sealed envelope and be placed in Tender Box No. 1 in the Pal-Yam Building, Haifa (address as above) not later than 11 a.m. on the last date for submitting bids, as stated above.
The envelopes cannot be submitted to the company's offices in Tel Aviv. Any bids submitted in Tel Aviv will be disqualified.
No undertaking is given to accept the lowest or any bid.
In appropriate cases, the Electric Corporation will give preference to suppliers, in accordance with the Tenders Regulations (Preference for Locally Produced Goods, and Obligation to Extend Commercial Cooperation).
The Electric Corporation reserves the right to negotiate, where this is legally permissible.
The tender may be viewed on the Electric Corporation's website: www.israel-electric.co.il

'98 industrial product up 2.8%

Sheetrit: Wage agreements on top of my agenda

By Jerusalem Post Staff

Industrial production rose last year by 2.8 percent in comparison with the previous year, the Central Bureau of Statistics announced yesterday.

The increase, which is significantly larger than the previous year's 1.8% figure, is based on preliminary, fixed-price data pertaining to non-diamond industrial plants with fully salaried personnel.

The industrial-growth figure is likely to play a role in the major parties' election campaigns, along with joblessness – which stood at 8.7% at the end of the year – and gross domestic product and inflation, which grew last year by 2% and 8.5% respectively.

Industrial production measures the value-added output of manufacturing companies, while the GDP includes all economic activity, from trade and commerce to financial services.

In last year's fourth quarter the CBS registered an annualized 3.7% growth rate, which is similar to the first quarter's pace. Industrial growth plunged to 2.8% and and 1.7% respectively in last year's second and third quarters.

Within the various industrial sectors growth was inconsistent, with plastics and chemistry expanding 9.5% and electricity, electronics, and transportation rising 7% each; while construction-material industries plunged 10% last year compared to the previous year.

Growth in other sectors, most notably food – which grew 1% – registered undramatic fluctuations.

The number of salaried employees across the industrial sector declined last year by 1%, or 3,500 employees, while the number of actual work hours shrank 1.4% on a per-person basis.

The CBS noted that the industrial production calculations were based on the Henderson method, which gauges the growth trend based on fixed prices after subtracting various seasonal influences and taking holidays into consideration.

Meanwhile, a day after his appointment's overwhelming approval by the Knesset, Finance Minister Meir Sheetrit began a round of meetings with senior Treasury officials to study the tasks ahead of him.

In an official statement, Sheetrit said his meetings with Finance Ministry Director-General Benzion Zilberfarb and his aides focused on the broad macro-economic picture as well as the wage agreements, which the government is due to negotiate with the Histadrut in upcoming months.

Sheetrit discussed these issues at length with Zilberfarb and budget director David Milgrom, but no details were disclosed.

Fighter plane purchases may grow to $4b.

By DANNY GUR-ARIEH

The Defense Ministry has raised the stakes in its tender for fighter planes, telling Lockheed Martin and Boeing that Israel would spend up to $4 billion on the order expected to be awarded by the middle of this year, said J.A. Blackwell, president and chief operating officer of Lockheed's aerospace division.

In Tel Aviv, senior defense executives and military sources confirmed Blackwell's statement.

The two companies are in the final stage of a competition which began in late 1997. At the time, Israel said it had about $2.5 billion to spend on new planes.

"They came back to us a little while ago and asked for prices on a range of 30 to 110 planes," Blackwell said.

Industry sources said that 60 planes would cost in the region of $2.5 billion, while 110 planes would cost some $4 billion. The larger the order the cheaper the price of each individual plane.

Some air force officials have speculated Israel will ultimately split the contract, buying some planes from Boeing and some from Lockheed.

Aircraft industry sources said the Defense Ministry had made a similar request for prices from Boeing. Both companies will issue their final offers in April.

"It's the very last stage. We can envision a contract by mid-year," Blackwell told reporters.

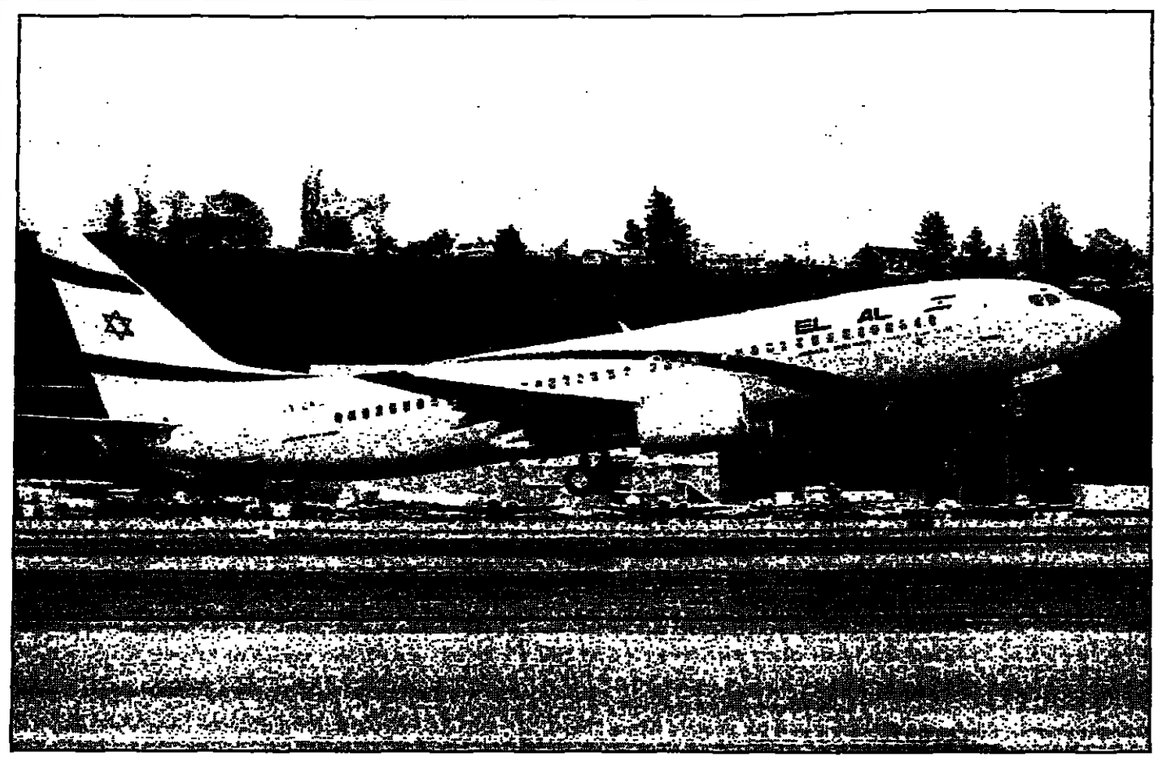
The Defense Ministry had no immediate comment.

The air force has been pressing Defense Ministry officials to expand the tender, citing Israel's need for at least 100 planes to replace aging models.

Israel will pay for the planes from the $1.8 billion it receives in annual military aid from the United States.

Lockheed, which lost the last Israeli aircraft tender to Boeing in 1994, said its single-engine F-16 aircraft could now fly as far as the twin-engine F-15I offered by Boeing. (Reuters)

Jerusalem Post Staff contributed to this report.



More space for packages

El Al yesterday took possession of several short-range Boeing 737-800s, like this one, but having from 144 to 156 seats, fewer than the normal 162. Six rows of seats can be converted from tourist to business class. 'We know our market,' El Al director-general Yoel Feldschuh said in Seattle. 'Jews like lots of room for packages.' (Text: Haim Shapiro)

Mashov mulls PA, Jordan R&D centers

By DAN GERSTENFELD

Mashov Computers is looking into setting up joint software ventures in Amman, Ramallah and Gaza in conjunction with local entrepreneurs. David Assia the company's chairman and co-founder yesterday told *The Jerusalem Post*.

Assia said that the company has approached the Peres Peace Center through which it met with people from the Palestinian Authority and Jordan to establish R&D centers for Mashov.

The company was surprised to discover that most computer graduates from Bir Zeit University and most computer experts from Jordan prefer to immigrate to the US and the Gulf states where they can find jobs.

Mashov has therefore decided to open training centers in Gaza, Ramallah and Amman in which local residents will become qualified to work for the company.

He said that if the attempt succeeds Mashov is interested in training workers for the opening of a development center that will focus on products in the Arab language.

"Our products are already sold in the Arab world and we would like to open a subsidiary that will support our products in Arabic," Assia said. "If the attempt succeeds we might even turn the place into a regional marketing center at a latter stage."

Assia said, however, that he was disappointed to find out that Israeli businessmen are still facing difficulties doing business in the PA. He added that the shortage in skilled workers has forced Israeli companies to look for workers overseas. "Aurec holds an R&D center in Cyprus and we employ software people in India," Assia said. "We can do the same thing here across the road or across the river."

According to the plan the training center will provide basic computer courses as well as professional courses in programming languages such as Java and C++.

Assia said it will cost about $1million to open each of the training centers.

Mashov has also contacted Jordanian businessman Omar Salah, chairman and CEO of Century Investment Corp., which is involved in some of the major joint Israeli-Jordanian ventures. Assia said that Mashov and Century are now looking for another Jordanian partner who specializes in computers.

Speaking to the *Post* last month Salah said he is interested in opening computer training centers in Jordan and Gaza which will supply skilled workers to international computer companies. Salah said that one of the potential Palestinian partners is Jihad Al-Wazir, who is better known as the son of Abu Jihad (Khalil Al-Wazir), who was killed in Tunisia in 1988.

Assia said that he never met Al-Wazir although his name was mentioned as a possible partner.

Israeli computer companies have been mulling for some time over the idea of recruiting Jordanian and Palestinian computer engineers. One of the first companies to take steps in this direction was Karmiel-based Siemens Data Communication which operates a joint venture in Ramallah. Other companies have also declared similar intentions but so far no concrete steps have been taken.

Age of globalism generates blockbuster salaries

PAY SLIPS

LONDON – Michael O'Neill might or might not turn out to be a great choice as the new chief executive of Barclays Plc. But even before arriving at the bank's London headquarters, he made British corporate history.

His blockbuster pay package caused British Trade and Industry Secretary Stephen Byers to float the idea of putting some kind of cap on the escalating generosity big companies show their chief executives – not that this lonely stand against the forces of global capitalism is likely to meet with success.

O'Neill's eye-popping package starts from a base salary of 850,000 pounds ($1.38 million), plus a guaranteed bonus of double his pay. After that, he can count on options worth up to four times his salary. In addition, Barclays is holding 5 million shares in trust for him, which O'Neill can collect if he stays at the bank until 2002. In effect, O'Neill will be making in excess of 3 million pounds a year for running a medium-sized European clearing bank.

That O'Neill is an American shouldn't be a great surprise.

Bloated pay packages for senior corporate executives have been a largely American creation. The first executive to make 1 million pounds a year at a British company was Richard Giordano in 1990, the American chairman of the industrial gasses company BOC Plc; ever since the traffic in executives from across the Atlantic has helped push up pay scales in the UK.

Byers may be taking his stand in the slim hope of preventing a trend of excessive executive pay from becoming the norm. Last week, he suggested two possible ways of putting a lid on executive pay. First, companies could mandate that shareholders must vote on all proposals made by their remuneration committees.

Second, all directors should have to run for reelection every year. Shareholders who feel directors are overpaid would then have the opportunity to vote them out.

It was left unclear whether these changes would require legislation or simply a change in London Stock Exchange rules.

Obviously, the government would prefer that the Stock Exchange deal with the issue.

Motivating the government are "the principles of accountability, transparency and performance," Byers said in a letter to *The Financial Times* explaining his position.

Accountability and transparency are modern buzzwords, commodities that are assumed to have magical powers to cure almost any condition. But smooth phrases shouldn't obscure the emptiness and hollowness of Byers's position.

It's unrealistic to expect British shareholders to act as a kind of brake on executive pay. The trade and industry secretary presumably isn't aware that almost 90 per cent of the shares in British companies are controlled by City of London fund managers, whose largely undisclosed pay packages would make their industrial counterparts green with envy.

At Mercury Asset Management, for example, one of the City's largest fund managers and now a division of Merrill Lynch & Co., its two most senior executives earn – well, receive – more than 10 million pounds each. And the average annual salary for the firm's 1,300 staff is 85,000 pounds, a figure that includes cleaners and secretaries. This isn't an isolated example. The highest-paid director of Schroders Plc, another leading British fund manager, makes in excess of 1.5 million pounds a year.

So, proposing that these are the people to control executive pay would stretch even the British talent for hypocrisy. Someone who has just collected a 10 million pound payout from Merrill Lynch isn't likely to tell O'Neill to moderate his wage demands.

Calls for transparency and accountability are, in truth, a political device for evading a serious issue, one that needs to be confronted. America has taken the lead in creating fabulously generous awards for top corporate executives. Pay-and-options packages running into tens, and sometimes hundreds, of millions of dollars aren't uncommon. (Bloomberg)

PRIME פריים
Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents
Date: 23.2.99
Purchase Price: 124.80
Redemption Price: 123.20
MUTUAL FUNDS LEUMI Pia

TARGET טרגט (מסוים)
Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents
Date: 23.2.99
Purchase Price: 128.65
Redemption Price: 126.82
MUTUAL FUNDS LEUMI Pia

The EVENT of the year!
THE JERUSALEM POST FUNDS
PESSAH COUNTRY FAIR

TASE at 7-week high • FTSE soars 2.5% on results

SHARES

TEL AVIV

The Maof index rose yesterday to its highest in seven weeks, led by Bezeq, which gained on prospects the government may water down a plan for cuts in call charges and some reorganization.

Chemical companies rose after Dead Sea Bromine Co. jumped. The company said its fourth-quarter net income rose 10 percent to NIS 37.1 million ($9.2 million).

The Maof Index of the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange's 25 largest companies gained for a fifth day, rising 0.98 percent to 320.71.

The index rose 0.84 percent Tuesday.

Dead Sea Bromine jumped 5.86 percent to 27.10. The chemical maker rose to its highest level since December 9 after announcing fourth-quarter earnings. Parent company Israel Chemicals rose 2.46 percent to 4.16. Dead Sea Works, another subsidiary of Israel Chemicals, rose 1.18 percent to 9.40.

Bezeq rose 2.66 percent to 13.90. Bezeq is trying to persuade the government to reconsider a committee's proposal to reduce local call charges. Analysts said the government is unlikely to force all of the committee's recommendations, which include efficiency measures, on the company.

Bank Leumi rose 1.85 percent to 6.05. Lehman Brothers on Tuesday bought 2.5 percent of Israel's second-biggest bank for $51.5 million and then sold the shares to its clients. Lehman, the fourth-largest US investment bank, sold the 36 million shares to a number of international and Israeli investors within hours.

Elbit Systems rose 0.92 percent to 54.80. The military equipment company was rated "buy" in new coverage by analyst Catherine Lemaitre at Bank Hapoalim.

EUROPE

The UK's FTSE 100 stock index powered to record highs yesterday, as a surge of investment demand was fired by recent strong corporate results and a multi-million pound bonanza of cash handouts from leading firms.

With weakness in sterling against the dollar also encouraging buying of heavyweight stocks such as Glaxo, with heavy exposure to the US, the FTSE closed up 152.4 points or 2.5 percent at 6,307.6 – surpassing its previous record close of 6,179.0 set on July 20.

Gainers in the leading UK index – which also set a record intra-day peak of 6,316.6 – outweighed decliners by more than four to one.

Total trading volume reached 982 million shares by the market's 16:30 GMT close – moderate by recent standards – while a firm early performance on Wall Street also reassured sentiment. The Dow was up some 30 points at the London close.

Since the end of last year, the FTSE 100 has risen by some 7.2 percent.

For once it was domestic factors rather than the trend on Wall Street, which were the dominant influence in London.

Analysts said the UK market had been reassured by the recent spate of results from top companies such as British Telecom, Glaxo, and banking groups including NatWest and Barclays.

A series of special payouts – most recently from gas supplier and producer Centrica, which announced a special 12 pence per share dividend totalling 530 million pounds – was also funelling cash into investors' pockets, money that was being reinvested in leading shares.

ASIA

Hong Kong stocks rallied, posting their biggest two-day gains in seven weeks, as HSBC Holdings Plc rose on hopes increased bad-debt provisions and a possible share buyback will pave the way for improved earnings.

The Hang Seng Index rose 243.58, or 2.6 percent, to 9677.57, a four-week high. Its two-day gain of 4.9 percent was the biggest since January 7. HSBC, the London-based parent of the territory's two largest lenders, made up more than a quarter of the index's rise. It announced plans for a US listing, sought approval for a share buyback and raised its dividend when reporting lower-than-expected profits on Monday.

"The earnings are history, and people are looking to the future – the US listing, stock buyback, increased dividend," said Antony Mak, director at Vickers Ballas (HK) Ltd.

In other markets, Japan's Nikkei 225 stock average fell 1.0 percent to 14355.45 as Matsushita Electric Industrial Co. declined on lower-than-expected profit. Taiwan's TWSE Index rose 0.9 percent as bullish projections for Internet growth buoyed computer-related stocks. South Korea's Kospi index fell 0.9 percent, after Standard & Poor's Corp. downgraded its credit ratings on two banks.

WALL STREET

NEW YORK (AP) – Stocks beat a hasty retreat yesterday in the final hour of trading to close lower, after bond prices slid and pushed interest rates higher.

On Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrial average dropped 144.75 points – or by 1.5 percent – at 9,399.67.

The Dow opened softer but quickly rallied in the morning, peaking at just over 9,600, or up 55 points, before trimming its gains in late morning and then staging an outright retreat in the afternoon.

"Although (stock) market internals don't look so bad, the weakness in bonds is a problem," said Scott Bleier, chief investment strategist at Prime Charter. "There doesn't seem to be any great desire to one thing or another, except that bonds are lower."

The price of the 30-year bond was down more than a point, or $10 for every $1,000 valuation. Its yield, which moves opposite the price, moved above the critical 5.5% to 5.51%.

The rise in interest rates was particularly injurious to technology and financial stocks, which had been providing some leadership to the upside in recent sessions.

The Standard and Poor's 500 fell 17.77 to 1,253.41, and the technology-heavy Nasdaq composite index dropped 36.97 to 2,339.38.

TRADING FLOORS



Maof 320.71 ▲ 0.98%

Dow Jones 9399.67 ▼ 1.5%

FTSE 6179.0 ▲ 2.5%

Nikkei 14355.45 ▼ 1%

CURRENCIES

The dollar was little changed against the euro and yen, buoyed by speculation the Federal Reserve may raise interest rates in coming months, while rates in Europe may be cut and those in Japan stay at record low levels.

Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan Tuesday said the US economy is expanding at a "surprisingly robust" pace with scant inflation. He also fanned talk of a coming rate rise by suggesting last year's cuts may have been more than were needed.

"The market is thinking about the possibility of rising interest rates in the US and falling interest rates in Europe," said Armin Linge, a currency trader at Bankhaus Hermann Lampe in Dusseldorf. "They think that the economy in the United States is doing much better than Europe."

The dollar was little changed against the euro, leaving the single currency at $1.1013 from $1.1004 late Tuesday and leaving the euro down 6 percent since it was introduced in January. The dollar also was at 121.22 yen from 121.26 yen late Tuesday.

The British pound tumbled to a 16-month low against the dollar on expectations that the difference between U.K. and US interest rates will narrow in the coming months, dimming the pound's allure. The pound fell to $1.6011 from $1.6143.

Still, the dollar gave up earlier gains against major currencies as concern the Fed may raise rates in the coming months weighed on US Treasuries. The yield on the benchmark 30- year bond rose 1 basis point to 5.44 percent, its highest level since August 24.

"There's nervousness about how the asset market will deal with Greenspan," said Claudio Piron, a treasury economist at Standard Chartered.

Global investors selling US bonds often convert dollar proceeds to home currencies.

COMMODITIES

METALS

Platinum continued firm in Europe yesterday, fixing at a seven-month high in the morning while the rest of the precious metals complex remained subdued, dealers said.

Platinum fixed at $384.00 an ounce in London, its highest level since July 21, 1998. Spot platinum was unchanged from the New York close at $383.00/$385.00.

Dealers said one-month platinum lease rates were at 12 percent yesterday compared to Tuesday's 11 percent and about 4 percent a week ago.

A London dealer said platinum was sold off aggressively by one New York house on Tuesday but it remained well bid overnight and in Europe in the morning.

"We can only see higher spot prices today because of the deep backwardation," the dealer said.

Other dealers said the spot platinum price is well supported by the forward markets, while the next resistance level is hard to choose.

"Next resistance is hard to pick, although psychological resistance is bound to be seen at the $400 mark," said N.M. Rothschilds & Son treasury analyst Helen McCaffrey.

Palladium held steady but did not follow platinum higher. It was last quoted at $348.00/$353.00 an once from the New York close at $345.00/$350.00. Gold moved lower in early European business. It was quoted at $286.00/$286.50 a troy ounce from the New York close at $287.00/$287.50.

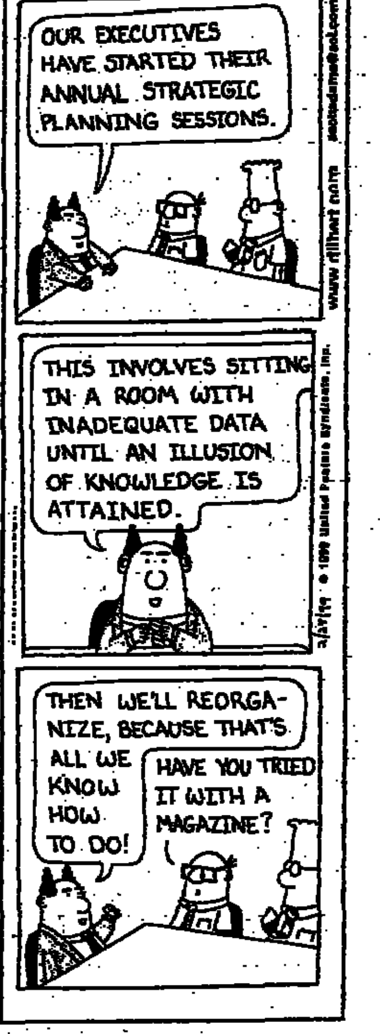
Dealers said gold remained in a tight range, although some activity could be expected ahead of yesterday's over-the-counter (OTC) options expiry.

ENERGY

Brent crude oil for April delivery was little changed, falling as much as 9 cents to $10.85 a barrel on the International Petroleum Exchange. A weekly report showed US crude oil supplies rose 1.9 million barrels to 334.1 million barrels. The American Petroleum Institute's inventory report showed crude oil supplies rose in line with analysts' expectations, damping hopes for a speedy recovery in oil prices.

(News agencies)

DILBERT
By Scott Adams



Bond bulls puzzled by market rout

New York – Why the big selloff? That is what bond bulls want to know after sifting through what they view as even-handed comments about the economy from Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan.

Greenspan, in a semiannual testimony to the Senate Banking Committee, said there is "no evidence of any upturn in inflation," even as the economy rolls along. He also indicated the Federal Reserve is as likely to cut interest rates as raise them, and predicted the economy will probably slow as the year goes on.

Yet none of those comments – which some investors took as bullish – prevented bonds from sinking. The 30-year Treasury bond fell 1 1/32 points, or $10.31 per $1,000 bond, pushing the yield up to 5.43 percent, near the highest since August.

"I'm struggling with the market's reaction," said Scott Grannis, who helps manage about $47 billion at Western Asset Management in Pasadena, California. "I don't see why people need to be so pessimistic at this point."

The losses were triggered when Greenspan acknowledged there is some question as to whether the Federal Reserve went too far in cutting rates last year to calm financial markets and avert a recession. The central bank lowered the target for overnight lending, or federal funds rate, to 4.75 percent in three quarter-point moves between late September and mid-November.

The Federal Reserve "must continue to evaluate, among other issues, whether the full extent of the policy easings undertaken last fall to address the seizing up of financial markets remains appropriate as those disturbances abate," Greenspan said.

Pessimists found reason for worry in Greenspan's "seeming remorse" about the extent of the Federal Reserve cuts, said Alan Kral, who helps oversee $1 billion at Trevor Stewart Burton & Jacobsen Inc.

That concern drove yields on two-year notes, the most sensitive to Federal Reserve rate expectations, up 10 basis points to 4.99 percent, the highest since August 26.

Yet bond bulls found enough good news to offset the bad. The testimony reflected "a pretty balanced view," said Kirk Mentzer, who helps oversee about $10 billion at Star Bank NA in Cincinnati, Ohio.

The Federal Reserve's latest economic forecast calls for the economy to grow at a 2.5 percent to 3 percent pace this year, down from its 3.9 percent pace in 1998, Greenspan said.

What's more, "recent experience

MARKETWATCH

By BETH WILLIAMS

does seem to suggest that the economy has become less inflation prone than in the past," thanks in part to increased productivity and a lack of pricing power by companies, Greenspan said. Subdued inflation means bonds will hold more of their value.

Mentzer at Star Bank predicts 30-year yields could fall to 5 percent as soon as April, and said he'll be buying longer-term Treasuries as new cash comes into his fund.

These days, though, bulls like Mentzer are outnumbered by investors who see a risk that the economy's robust pace will at some point quicken inflation and prompt a Federal Reserve rate increase.

That's made for a lousy Treasury market so far this year.

Individuals who invested in 30-year Treasuries at the start of the year are now sitting on a loss of 4.1 percent. Those who jumped in when yields fell to 31-year lows on October 5 and held the bonds until now are sitting on a paper loss of 8 percent.

Financial market indicators, such as futures on Eurodollars, or dollars on deposit outside the US, also suggest traders see a growing chance the Federal Reserve will boost rates later this year.

The implied yield on the September contract for 90-day Eurodollars stands at 5.24 percent, up 10 basis points today and almost 45 basis points in the last month. That compares to the current three-month borrowing rate of 5 percent, and suggests some traders are looking for a quarter-point Federal Reserve increase by the time the contract expires in mid-September.

The widening gap between the two-year note yield and the federal funds target also suggests investors see a greater chance for a Fed rate rise. The spread grew today to 24 basis points, its widest since December 9, 1997. For most of the past year the two-year yield traded below the federal funds target, as traders looked for lower rates from the central bank and snapped up Treasuries as a refuge from financial market turbulence in Asia.

"The bond market is doing a pretty good job convincing itself that we're going to get a tightening this year," said Grannis at Western Asset Management.

For his part, Grannis does not see how the Federal Reserve could increase rates as long as inflation stays subdued, as even the reserve's own economists suggest it will.

The Federal Reserve's latest forecast, released today, calls for the consumer price index to rise 2 percent to 2.5 percent this year, up from 1998's 1.6 percent increase, and in line with the average of 2.45 percent over the past five years.

In addition, the economy, now in its eighth year of expansion, is likely to cool in the months ahead, making a rate cut more likely than an increase, Grannis said. As a result, he predicts 30-year yields could fall to 4.5 percent by year-end, even if they climb a bit first. Two-year yields may drop below 4 percent, he said.

Given his outlook for lower yields, Grannis said bonds at current levels may be too good to pass up. He's even considering adding some to his personal account.

"I'm getting ready to buy," Grannis said. (Bloomberg)

FINANCIAL MARKETS

TEL-AVIV 100 LEADING SHARES

	LAST	CHANGE*
Africa Hotels	537	5.1
Africa Israel 0 1	20500	2.5
Africa Israel 1	180500	-5
Ags	2020	-0.5
Al Paper Mills	15450	-0.3
Al-Rov	1710	0
Azorim	3150	-0.6
Azorim Prop.	750	-1.3
Bank Leumi 0.1	605	1.9
Baran	3300	1.2
Bayside 1	45000	-0.9
Bayside 5	210100	-2.7
Bezeq	1390	2.7
Blue Square	5300	0
Bromine	2710	5.9
Carmel	2060	0
Clal Electronics	63200	0
Clal Industries	1960	1.6
Clal Insurance	3540	0.9
Clal Israel 1	8920	0
Dan Hotels	865	0
Dankner	2010	0
Darban	580	-1.2
Dead Sea Works 0 1	936	0.8
Delek 0.1	10880	-0.4
Delek Car	820	1.5
Delta 1	3920	0.3
Development Mort	18040	-0.1
Discount Bank	361	0.3
Discount Inv.	12450	-0.2
Elbit 0 003	1585	3.7
Elbit imaging	4780	3.2
Elbit system	5480	0.9
Elco Holdings	2170	3.3
Elco Industries	3570	2.1
Electra	17850	0.3
Electra App	3000	-1
Elite Ind. 1	2900	-1.4
Elite Ind. 5	14140	-1.7
Elron 0 003	6960	2.5
FIBI 5	2800	1.1
First Int'l 1	430	0.7
First Int'l 5	2080	2.5
First Int'l Mort	31000	0
Formula	10850	-1.7
General Bank	8740	-2.1
Grand Hacarmel	492	0.4
Hadarim Prop	7890	2.8
Hapoalim 0 1	784	1.3
Harel Mishmar 1	3290	0
Harel Mishmar 5	15940	-0.1
Home Center	3940	0
I.D.B. Dev.	9160	1
I.D.B. Holdings	8810	1
ILDC	2150	-0.5
Ind Bldgs	499	0.2
Israel Chemicals	416	2.5
Israel Corp 1	36500	1.4
Isramel	610	0
Jafora	834	11.2
JCT	291	1.7
JEC	1346	0
Kitan	408	-2.2
Knafaim	4250	-4.3
Koor	39200	-0.3
Leumi Insurance	225	1.4
Leumi Mortgage	65800	-1.2
Ma'ariv	3130	0
Makhteshim Agan Ind.	860	-0.1
Mamen	500	4.2
Matav	4910	2.1
Mehadrin	12030	0.1
Mei Eden	1540	0
Melisseron	1025	-1.4
Menorah Ins. 1	1513	2.1
Mictan	63000	0
Mivtach Shamir	2250	-2.2
Mizrahi	728	2.4
NATSVA REGULAR	1454	-1.4
Nice Systems	11750	-0.3
Ormat Industries	465	-0.9
Osem Industries	1848	0
Petrochemicals	2130	0.5
Phoenix Ins. 1	802	0
Plasson	4450	3
Poalim Inv	12000	0.7
Point of Sale	3290	12.3
Prop & Bldg	32000	0
Salt Industries	1825	-0.3
Shikun u'Binui	268	1.1
Solel Bone	3690	-0.3
Supersol	1039	0.4
Taldam	1829	0.8
Tambour	511	-0.2
Telehot	184800	-0.1
Tempo	1570	-1.3
Teva	17390	-0.8
Urdan Israel	2690	0.4
Wire and Cables	1144	-0.5
Ytong Industries	900	-3.2

RETZEF SMALL CAPITALIZATION TASE ISSUES

	LAST	CHANGE*
Abgc	1.6	0
Abud	42.8	0
Ace-Spade	67.3	0
Ackerstein Bond B	183.4	0
Ackerstein Ind.	410	-3.3
Ackerstein Zvi 1	1470	0
Ackerstein Zvi 5	8000	0
Adanim	297400	0
Adler	120	0
Adsha	120	0
Adumim	310	0
Africa Hotels Bond B	97.5	0
Africa Hotels Warrant 2	70	0
Africa Israel Hotels Bond A	141.6	0.4
Afsek Ind	974	0
Ags Warrant 4	205	-2.4
Agish Int'l	305	0
Agis Investments	430	0
Al-Ben	149.9	0
Al-Ben Bond A	124.4	-0.1
Aline c2	95.8	0.3
Aline w6	114	4.6
Alliance	561	-1.6
Alon	270	0
Alony-Hetz	462	0
Alony-Hetz Bond A	220	0
Alrod	200	0
Alrov Bond D	82.5	0.6
Alrov Warrants 5	70	0
Alumir	256	0
Alumit	2100	0
Amigar	209	0
Amilec	127	0
Ammiel Warrant 1	80	8.1
Amnal	706	2.2
Ampa Investments	9500	0
Analyst EMS	860	0
Angel Trade	57.5	-1.7
Angel Trade Bond A	181	0
Angel Trade Bond B	119	0
Angel Trade Bond C	62.6	-1.4
Apcon	669	0
Apcon warrant 1	170	0
Applicom	2290	0
Aracell Warrant 2	307	0
Arad	1250	0
Arad Towels	1310	0
Arazim	140	7.7
Argaman	127	0
Arledan	1375	0
Arpal	135	0
Arye	94	-2.1
Ashkelon Plywood	514	0
Ashkelon Plywood Bond 2	159	0
Ashtad	486	-4.7
Ashtad Bond A	162	0
Ashot	247	0
Ashot Bond A	182	0
Ashpara	90.6	0
Ashtrom Bond 1	180.2	0
Ashtrom Bond 2	166.5	0
Ashtrom Ind.	550	0
Ashtrom Prop.	170.1	0
Astrom P Bond 1	94	0
Astrom p warrant 3	22	0
Astrum Bond C	105.6	0
Astrum Warrant 2	14	0
Ablon	80	0
Almor	1020	2.2
ATX	172	0
Azmon	160	0
Aura	4640	0.9
Avarot	285	-1.7
Avarot Bond A	185	0
Averbuch Formica	800	0
Aviv	400	0
Aviv Bond 1	160	0
Aviv Bond 2	89.8	0
Avner	4.8	0
Avrot Bond 2	96	0
Avrot Warrant 2	29	0
Ayalon	860	0
Azmuth	444	0
Azorim Properties Bond 3	183.1	0
Azorim Warrant 13	400	0
Azorim Warrant 5	103.2	0.5
Azorim Warrant A	230	-1.7
Azorim Warrant B	500	0
Badash Bond 1	25.1	0
Bagili	289	0
Balenme 1	143.5	0
Balenme Bond A	136	2.6
Balron	3660	0
Bama'asaf	950	0
Bama'asaf Bond A	149.7	0
Bar	333	0
Bar Bond A	137	-0.1
Barad	239	0
Baranowitz	602	-6.7
Barkan	600	0
Barsol	109	0
Bartal	220	0
Baumel Moshe	163.5	0
BaySide Bond 2	94.3	0
BaySide Warrant D	1200	0
Beit Shemesh	1601	0.7
Belmon	415	0
Ben Yakar Bond A	185	0
Ben Yakar Bond B	86	0
Ben Yakar Gal	4300	0
Berman	150	0
Bezek Bond 3	137.2	2.4
Bezek Warrant Bond 3	371	10.7
Bilu	2100	0
Bilu Bond A	166	0
Binar	260	0
Bio	262	0
Bolos Bond B	85.8	0
bolos gad warrant 1	30.5	0
Bonei Tichon	438	0
Bonjour	589	-1.8
Boulous Brothers	120.5	2.6
Boulous Brothers Bond 1	268	0
Boulous GD	236	0
Boulous GD Bond A	140	-0.1
Brand	99	0
Bril	36	0
Brok Side	14.3	0
Brosh	102	0
Building Bank	1250	-2.8
Building Resou.	4100	0
C Holdings	245	8.9
C Holdings Bond 5	65	-0.6
Caesarea 1	6580	5.3
Capital	964	0
Capital Bond A	121	0
Caprice	273	0
Cargal	548	0
Carmel	459	-2.3
Carmiel	402	0
Castro	495	0
Catalana 1	431	0
CDI	189	0
Comanteccal Bond A	50.1	0
Cementcal	231	0
Centre	150	0
Centre Bond 1	141.2	0
Cham	383	-1.3
Chayun Computers	161	0
Chempal	450	0
Chm-Nir	320	-5.9
Cl Systems	113	0
Cidab	320	0
Clal Computers	10680	2.2
Clal Retail	49700	0
Cohen Beni	151	0
Cohen Dev	150	0
Cohen MM	130	0
Cold Storage 1	2340	4
Compl	172.6	17.3
Compl Warrant 1	11.7	0
Compufite	190	0
Comrach	454	9.4
Comtrans	809	0
Contal	1195	0
Contractors	21800	0
Coral Beach	768	0
Credit Line	3.4	0
Credit Lines Bond A	33	0
Cyclone 1	2980	4.9
Cyclone Bond 2	173.8	0
Dafron	1391	0
Dalen	1	0
Dan Rent-A-Car	770	0
Dan Rent-A-Car Bond A	168.2	0
Danbar 1	3380	0
Danbar 5	8540	1.7
Danbar Bond A	294	0
Danbar Resources	3970	0
Danbar Resources Bond B	177	0
Danbar Tech.	3750	0.8
Danbar Technologies Bond A	158	0
Danel	90	0
Danel Bond A	91	0
Danel Personnel	1900	0
Danel Warrant 2	151	0
Dankner Bond 1	218	0.5
Dankner Bond 2	147	0
Dankner Bond 3	95	1
Dankner Warrant C	360	0
Danly	420	0
Darad	109.4	0
DARBAN BOND 2	102	0
Darban Bond A	171.1	0
Darban Warrant 3	52	0
Darea	154.5	0
Darion	295	0
Dash investment	640	0
Data	610	0
Decision Systems	331	0
Dagam Systems	410	0.5
Delek Drilings	13.6	2.3
Delek Oil	1400	0
Destiny	1062	0
Dgal	1239	2.7
Dirom 1	1400	0
Dolev	358	0
Dolev Bond A	145.4	0.2
Dolev warrant 1	19.3	0
Domicar	461	0
Domicar Bond	163.2	0
Dor Berger	270	0
Dor Chim	320	0
Dor Energy	1237	-1
Dore w1	41.6	0
Dorea	50.5	0
Dori c1	99.5	0
Dori Engineering	472	0
Dori Engineering Bond A	144.9	0
Dovrat Bond A	147.5	0
Dovrat Shrem	1440	0
DSL	649	0
Dubek M	2.3	0
Dubek S	3	0
Dunitz	230	0
DYG Industries	430	0
E & M Computing	1300	0
Edgar Albani	49.8	0
Edgar Industries	205	0
Edgar Inv Bond C	89.2	-0.1
Edgar Inv. Warrant 5	17	0
Elfar Bond A	99	0
Eini	152	0
Eltam	354	1.1
Eltronan	3690	-4.2
El Bad	2200	0.6
El Canit	395	0
El Canit Bond 1	168	0
Elad	468	0
Elad Bond A	178	0
Elad Bond B	150.3	0
Elad c3	74.3	-0.9
Elad w5	15	0
Elbit Computers Bond B	135	0
Eldan Tech	175	0
Electronics Line	698	0
Elgar	7000	0
Eltech Ind.	1101	2.9
Elvam	280	0
Ella	275	0
Ella Bond A	144	0
Elran	5000	0
Emek	197.9	0
Emyle	992	1.6
Engel Const.	530	0
ESE	1400	-3
Eshed Robotech	193.5	0
Even	482	0
Evrole Warrant 1	1243	0
Excellence	1495	0
Export Inv.	799	3.8
Extra	124	0
Feldman	63.1	0
Feldman Bond A	157.5	0
Feldman Ind.	250	0
Feuchtwanger 1	7540	0
Feuchtwanger 5	32200	2.2
Fidelit	2580	0
Five J Jewelers	371	0
Five J Jewelers Bond 2	137	0
Formica Source	100	0
Frutarom	377	0
Gahelet	11260	1.4
Galcom	65	-22.8
Galran	1350	0
Gama	139	0
Gamatronic	599	0
Gambit	2940	0
Gan Shmoel Bond A	110.9	0
Gan Shmoel Warrant 3	379	4.4
Gan Shmuel	1305	0.1
Ganel Hadar	494	0
Gap Development	125	0
Gap Holdings	182	-1.6
Gap Warrant 2	1	0
Gazit	700	0
Gazit Bond C	132.7	0
Gibor Bond 1	65	0
Gibor Bond A	87	0.8
Gibor Sabrina	62	0
Gibor Sport	681	0
Gibor Warrant 2	92	0
Gilboa	54	0
Gilko	180	0
Gilrek	1970	0
Givot Olam Oil	108.9	0
Glob Rit	843	-0.5
Golan	489	0
Gold	375	0
Golden House	512	0
Golex	217	0
Grand Bond	155.6	0
Grand Bond 2	148.1	-1.7
Green Software	132.8	8.9
Greenberg	1503	0
H. Electronics	49.2	0
H. Mer	815	4.2
Habas	3480	0
Habas Bond 1	134	0
Hadar 1	30000	5.3
Hadar 5	100000	0
Hadar Ins. 1	577	0.2
Hadar Ins. 5	2520	-0.4
Hadarim Bond1	118.8	0
Hadarim Warrant1	954	2.9
Hagal	439	0
Hagal Bond B	185	0
Harh-Lat	1290	0
Hamakor	159.3	0
Hanal	46.8	6.9
Hasin Esh	887	0
Hason	240	0
Hatehof 1	159	0
Hatehof Bond A	150.1	0
Hayal	1185	0
Hayal Bond2	110	0
Hayal Warrant 1	77	0
Hed Arzi Music	275	0
Hiron 1	10150	0
Hiron 5	34000	0
HL Service Bond 2	191.1	0
HL Service Bond 3	154	0
HL Services	2390	0
Hod	105	0
Hot	920	0
Holit	170	0
Hydrolics	115	0
IES Industries	240	0
IES Warrant 1	25.5	0
Ilan Gat	118	0
Ilan Gat Bond A	153.7	0
ILDC Bond 6	270	0
ILDC Hotels	320	-0.3
ILDC Hotels Warrant 2	89	0
ILDC Insurance	366	-0.5
ILDC Insurance Bond A	141.4	0.3
Imco	843	0
Ind Bld Warrant 3	16.5	0
Ind Bldgs R1	2.3	15
Ind.Dev.Bank C	339	-0.3
Ind.Dev.Bank CC	3390	0.6
Ind.Dev.Bank CC 1	3400	0.5
Ind.Dev.Bank Pref	1384	2.9
Independence Mort	43700	0
Intercosma	1050	0
Intergamma 1	2490	0
Intergamma 5	11700	0
Inventech	600	8.1
Iscal	1089	0
Ispro	5890	0
Isracolor	477	0
Israel Corp. 5	157000	1.2
Israel Lighterage Bond 3	146.4	-0.1
Israel Wire & Cables Bond C	190	-0.2
Israion	1000	0
Israion Bond C	88.5	0
Isramco	2.6	4
Isras 1	6750	0
Isras 5	29900	0
ISTA LINES	2290	0
Itay	2300	0
Itay Bond 1	80	0
Itay Warrant 1	380	0
Jafora Bond A	181	9.7
Jaysour	165	0
Jaysour Bond A	119.8	0
JEC Bond B	98.2	0.2
Jerusalem Mort	190	0
Jerusalem Mortgage Bond 16	173	0
Jeunesse	30.2	0
JOEL	545	-2.5
JOEL Bond 1A	244	0
JOEL Bond 2	132	0
JOEL Bond A	244	0
JOEL Warrant 3	2.6	0
Kadmani	119	0
Kadouri	729	0
Kafrice bond b	91.8	0
Kafrice warrant 1	64	0
Kalfir	1098	0
Kalkalit Bond A	84.5	1.1
Kalkalit warrant 2	130.9	-3
Kamour	343	6.5
Kamour Bond G	136	0.7
Kamsept	923	0
Kanal Warrant G	1	0
Kanlool	30	0
Kanlool Bond A	42.7	0
Kardan 1	515	0
Kardan 5	2510	0.4
Katz	126	0
Katz Bond A	80.5	0
Kedem Chemicals	2700	0
Kenlax	516	0
Kesher	838	0
Kesher Bond A	158	0
Keter	599	-3.7
Kind	16.9	0
Kind Bond A	33	0
King	239	0
Kinneret	169	0
Kiach Kirur	183	0
Klebrol Taufa	1132	0
Kibal	220	0
Kibal Bond A	175	0
Kibal Bond A	84.5	0
Kill ind. 5	8690	0.1
Koor Bond 5	147.5	0.3
Kopel	333	0
Kopel Bond 1	251	0
La Nationale Bond A	151.6	0
La Nationale Pref	127	1.6
Lachish	2750	3.8
Lamont	820	1.2
Lapidot Oil Exploration	1	0
Lapidot Oil Explorers	65.2	0
Lasers	425	-1.2
Laviav	450	0
Laznick Bldg	449	0
Laznick Comm Ctrs	136.6	0
Laznick Commercial Centres Bond	136.5	-2.8
Laznick Ind Bldgs	310	0
Laznick Industrial Bldgs. Bond A	147	0
Leader	1020	2
Lego	437	0
Leumi Warrant 5	46.1	4.1
Leventhal	560	0
Levi	479	8.4
Levi Bond A	145.5	0
Levi Bond B	97.9	0
Levi Warrant 2	27	-6.2
Levinstein Bond A	386	0
Levinstein Warrant 2	4450	0
Levinstein	3210	0
Liber	394	0
Lidan	1340	0
Lishir 1	164.9	6.1
Lishir 5	520	0
Ligad	253	0
Ligad Bond 1	183	0
Lighterage 1	860	4.8
LIMS	245	0
Lipman	3320	-2.4
Lipski	4280	4.4
Lipski Bond A	182.3	0
Liraz	2950	1.7
Liraz Bond A	145.2	0.1
Lodan	135	0
Lodzia 1	1258	0
Lodzia 4	4650	0
Luhot Gall	23	0
Luhot Gall Bond 1	139.4	0
Lumir	3100	0
Ma'aniv Bond A	142	-0.7
Maabarot	1011	-5.1
Macpell	470	-1.9
Macpell Bond A	143	0
Macpell Bond B	133	0
Macpell Bond C	75.3	-0.4
Macpell Warrant 3	22.5	12.9
Mafil	418	-0.7
Magam	150	0
Magam Bond A	181	0
Magam Bond B	138.1	0
Magar	130	0
Magma	225	6.1
Magor 1	1545	0
Magor 5	7400	0
Magor bldgs. Bond B	85.3	0
Magor bldgs. Warrant 2	312	0
Malal	247	0
Mall	76.5	0
Malra	500	0
Mari	59	0
Man Bond A	240	0
Manbur	29.3	0
Marathon	88	0
Marathon Insured	108	-0.9
Mario Laznick Constr. Bond 1	179.4	0
Mario Laznick Const. Bond 2	162.7	1.7
Maritime Bank	1299	6.5
Maritime Bank Bond B	149	0
Mashav	720	2.1
Mashbir	540	7.1
Mashov	494	-2.8
Mashov	499	-1.2
Matam	1622	0

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	LAST	CHANGE*
Metav Warrant 1	1276	0.3
Maxima 1	375	0
Maxima 5	1420	5.3
Mazmak	770	-2.2
Med. Hotels	48	-4
Meditechnics	565	1.8
Meditechnics Bond A	143	0
Meditechnics Bond B	88.5	0
Meditechnics Warrant 2	32	-20
Megason	57.5	0
Meirad	1960	0
Meir Ezra	1449	2.3
Melet	280	0
Melisaron Bond B	95	0
Melisaron Warrant 3	37	0
Mendelson	291	0
Menolim	24	0
Menorah Ins. 5	6900	0
Mercedt	630	0
Merhav	131	0.8
Meytav	104	0
Middle East Tube	180	0
Middle East Tube Bond A	115	0
Middle East Tube Warrant 2	1	0
Milomor Bond A	138	0
Milomor Bond B	75	0
Milomor Warrant 2	61	0
Milomor	1457	0
Mimsar	132.9	0
Mini Line	857	0
Minotv	13200	-0.4
Mirage	165	0
Mirage Bond A	135.3	0
Miromit	60	0
Mishnael	19	0
Mishnael Bond B	58	0
Mishor Bond 2	155.5	0
Mishor Hahof	355	0
Mitcami	126	0
Mivtach Shamir	1108	0
Mizrahi Ins.	9940	0
Mizrahi warrant 2	60.8	1.7
MM Engineering	101	0
MM Engineering Bond A	71.6	0
Modgal	750	-4.5
Modi'in	1	0
Moffet	195.8	3.6
Moffet Convertible Bond AAA	220	0
Molett	382	0
More Plastic Ind.	352	0
Moshkowitz	142	0
MTI Computers	290	0
Mul-T-Lock	862	-1.2
Mule Senter	223	0
Nachshon Fund	38.9	2.6
Naphtha	21.5	-0.9
Naphtha Oil Exp.	27.9	0
Nalour	650	0
NATSYA BOND A	108	0
Navigator	222	0
Navigator Property	315	1.9
Nechushtan Bond B	70.7	0
Nechushtan Prop.	155.9	0
Nechushtan Properties Bond A	145	0
Nechushtan Warrant 1	77.8	0
Negev Ceramics	186.3	0
Nehushtan 1	470	0
Nehushtan 5	2600	0
Neot Aviv	7500	5.6
Nesua	427	0
Neve Arbel	185	0
Nevim Hotels	384	0
Naviot	835	0
Nis	268	0
Nilkuv	680	-2.9
Nieco	2020	0
Nissan	261	0.4
NMC	234	1.3
Noga	1590	0
Noga Insorens	77.5	6.2
Nordan	13.4	0
Nordan Tech.	500	0
Norfolk	596	0
Norfolk Bond A	151	0
Nur	63	0
NYP	1210	0
Oceana	272	0
Ocif	8100	0
Ocif Bond A	194	0
Ocif Bond C	92.5	0.5
Ocif Warrant 2	520	0
Octova	495	0
Oisk	219	0
Olar Bro	6700	0
Olfis	960	0
Ogden	61	0
Ohaliav	588	0
Oil Fields	2.2	0
Oki-Dok	225	-8.6
Omni	253	0
Omnitech	210	0
Ophir	289	0
Ophir Tours	440	0
Oppenheimer	88	0
Optima	143	0
Orasys	2890	1.9
Orazil	500	0
Orazil Bond A	172.4	0
Orbit	775	-1.5
Orda	2440	-0.8
Orda Bond 1	179.5	-1.5
Orev	663	2.2
Oriel	111.9	0
Orlite	313	4.3
Orlite Bond A	91.6	0
Orlite Warrant 2	48	0
Ormat Industries Bond D	135	0
Ormat Industries Warrant 5	8.7	-9.4
Ortal	385	0
Otzar Hashilton	22500	-2.8
Oz	145	0
Oz atide	368	-3.6
Packet Steel	5580	0
Palbogil	889	0
PAM	355	0
Pama	665	0
Pamas	1769	0
Pan Dor	250	0
Pardes	600	0
Pardes Bond A	42	0
Passport	1447	7.7
Paz Chen	520	0
PCB	1100	8.7
Pdan Investment	27.5	0
Pereg	125	0
Periclase	1015	4.4
Phoenix Ins. 5	3220	0
Pica Plast	300	0
Pilat	90	7.1
Pinros	130	0
Pinros Bond A	149	0
Pikit	401	0
Plasson bond a	102	0
Plasson warrant 1	380	2.9
Plasto Sac	555	0
Plasto Shack Bond A	99	1.1
Plasto Shack Warrant 2	80	0
Poalim Inv. Bond B	94.7	0.2
Poalim Inv. Warrant 3	1839	0
Poalim Investments Bond A	142.2	-0.6
Polak	260	0
Polgat A	414	0.5
Polgat B 4	1660	1.2
Polygon	2000	0
Poraz	223	4.2
Port	115	0
Poseidon	89.5	5.2
Pri Haemek	21	0
Pri Haemek Bond A	35.1	0
Prizker	170.2	0
Prizker Bond A	162.5	0
Profil	440	0
Profil Bond A	138.2	0
Python	488	0
Quality Cap Mits	495	0
Rabintex	285	16.3
Ram Zur	58.5	0
Ramgor 1	170	0
Ramgor 4	465	0
Rapak	2016	-3.8
Rapak Bond A	169	0
Rassco	1400	0
Ratio	1	0
Rav Car	178	0
Ravad	137	0
RDC	899	0
RDC Bond A	150.5	0
Red Sea Hotels	731	6
Regency	119	0
Regency Bond 1	128	0
Regost Bond A	155	-0.6
Reish	400	0
Reshef	55	0
Reshef Bond B	113	-1.5
Rimoni	755	0
Rogozin	1750	-2.4
Rogozin Bond A	84.1	0
Rogozin Warrant B	399	0
Romtech	430	0
Rosebud	95.9	-0.2
Rosental	89.6	-10
Rotem	248	0
Rotshtein	720	0
Rotshtein Bond A	140	0
RSL	544	9.9
Sadot Map Bond A	102.5	1.2
Sagle Prop. Bond 1	23.1	-11.2
Saher Bond a	65	0
Saher Dev.	2790	0
Saher Securities	560	0
Saher Warrant 1	390	0
Sanlacol	357	-0.9
Sano 1	2850	2.9
Sano 5	14000	0
Scope	1170	0
Scope Bond A	94	0
Scope Warrant 2	86	0
Sea Trade	525	8.1
Secom	285	2.5
Securities	800	0
Securities Bond A	181.8	0.5
Selan	1185	0
Sahalon	355	0
Shaled	328	0
Shamir	578	0
Shaikeh	900	0
Shef	209	0
Shelal	220	0
Shelal Bond A	154.5	-0.6
Shelam	88.9	1.8
Shelam Bond 1	152.8	-0.1
Shelag	121	0
Shem Tov	505	0
Shemen	12150	4.7
Shladot	57	0
Shlomo Angel	5750	0
Shmi c2	86.7	0
Shrei w2	192	0
Shavia	711	-0.4
Shmen Bond A	158.6	0
Shniv	453	0
Shtang	87.7	0
Shulamit	446	0
Shulamit Bond A	146.9	0
Sinai	693	0
Sinai Bond A	150.8	0
Solel Bone Bond A	108.4	-0.5
Soli Bond B1	34.9	0
Solog	580	0
Solomon	578	0
solomon bond a	79.8	-0.2
Solomon Holdings	385	0
solomon warrant 2	59	0
South Pipe	353	0
Spancril	175	0
Spectronix 1	1243	-0.5
STG	1000	0
STG Bond A	116	0
Sunbrest	4050	0
Suny Electronics	728	0
Synopsis	172	0
Synopsis Bond A	151.1	0
Syntac	305	0
Ta'al	165.7	0
Tachof Bond B	81.6	0.7
Tachof Warrant 3	66.6	0
Tadbik	220	0
Tadiran Appl	560	-1.6
Tal	130	0
Tal Bond A	39	0
TAP Bond 1	285	0
Tashioz bond a	121.6	0
Tashioz warrant 2	184.1	0
Tashioz Bond A	186.6	0
Tashioz Bond B	146.4	0
Taste of Israel	178	0
TAT 1	360	-7.3
TAT 5	1287	-1.8
Taya	680	-8.7
Taya Comm. 1	355	2.9
Team Computers	5550	0
Technoplast	511	-8.4
Tedea	1450	0
Tedea Bond A	108	-0.9
Tedea Warrant 1	157	0
Tefahot Preferred	171900	0
Telan	1500	0
Teldor	548	5.4
Telele	1240	0
Telsis Warrant 1	300	0
Tene	180	0
Teuza	190	0
Teuza Insured	185	-0.3
Tibon Veal	122	0
Tim Warrant 3	530	0
Tiv	369	0
TMM	161	1.9
Tobias	1883	0
Tom	1070	0
Topline	530	0
Topline Bond 2	164.7	0
Topper	45.2	0
Tosaf Compounds	379	0
Trade	374	0.8
Trade Bond A	214	-0.5
Trend Line	1800	0
Trocadero	36	0
Trydikol	513	0
Tsaber	188	0
Tsarfati	536	-5.8
Tsarfati Bond A	154	0
Tsur	152.6	-0.1
Tsur Bond A	259	0
Tsur Bond B	117.5	0
Tsur Bond C	102.8	-0.2
Tsur Preferred	155	0
Tuzenauer	930	0
Tzmicha	520	0
Ulbald	38	0
Unibar 1	754	0
Unibar 5	784	0
Unico	4509	0
Unicom 1	34	0
Unicom Bond 1	300	0
Unidress	2070	0
United Steel	120	0
United Steel Industries Bond 1	160.5	0
Univercol	510	0
Urdan	289	0.3
Verdinon	25100	-0.8
Verdinon Bond A	189	-0.1
Verdinon Convertible Bond AAA	154.3	0
Videomatrix	28.7	0
Vilar	444	0
Vilar Bond 1	162	0
Vill Food	1208	0
Villar Bond A	156	0
Vitalgo	340	0
Vitalgo Bond A	133.8	0
Vulcan	491	0
Will Bond A	88.9	0
Will Warrant 1	325	0
Woolfman 1	467	0
Woolfman 5	2200	0
Woolison	65800	0
Ya'ane	871	0
Yaacobi	116	0
Yaad Bond A	186.8	0
Yaad Bond B	81.3	0
Yaad Industries	328	0
Yaad Warrant 3	80	0
Yad	490	0
Yardit	186	0
Yarden	429	0
Yarden Bond 2	139	0
YDPZ	259	-4.1
YDPZ Bond A	155	0
Yeda	1580	0
Yehuda	209	0
Yesh Gad	38.7	0
Ytsel	1580	-1.2
Ytshal Warrant 1	375	0
Yona Bond 1	183.4	4.6
Yona Hotels	174.2	0
Yozma	492	0
Ytsel	124	0
Zahir	585	0
Zanas Holdings	54.5	0
Zarfati Bond B	91	0
Zarfati Warrant 2	19	0
Zer	104	0
Zenavi	143	0
Zeller Ablagon	390	-6.5
Zeller Ablagon Bond A	157	0
Zeller Ablagon Bond B	117.1	-0.8
Zeller Inv. Bond A	83.8	0
Zeller Inv. Warrant 1	3.4	17.2
Zika 1	585	0
Zika 5	2540	0
Zikit 1	2750	0
Zikit 5	10100	0
Zionmetal	520	0
Zion Cables 1	250	-0.4
Zion Holdings	15000	0.7
Zion Textiles	300	-8.3
Ziv	205	0
Zohar	278	0
Zoko	288	0

ISRAELI SHARES ABROAD

	LAST	CHANGE*
Logal	0.5625	0
Level 8 Systems	10.125	-0.125
M-Systems Flash Disk	4.125	-0.125
Madge	3.75	+0
Magal Security Systems	3.1875	+0.0625
Matav	24	+0.5
Media El	5.4375	+0
Memco	10.9375	+0.125
Mer Telemanagement	1.6875	+0.1875
Mercury	64.75	+1.625
Magic Software Enterprises	5.9375	+0.1875
Netmanage	2.6875	+0.15625
New Dimension Software	45.5	-2.125
Nexus Telecom Sys Ltd	2.3125	-0.125
Nice Systems	29.625	+0.125
Neuro-Medical Systems	0.25	+0
Noga Electro Mechanical	0.875	+0
Nur Tecnology	3.125	-0.09375
Opti Systems Solutions	8	-0.125
Optomedics Medical Tech	0.9375	-0.0625
Optomedics Medical Warrant	0.25	-0.125
Orbit/FR Inc.	2.125	-0.09375
Orbotech	46.5	+0.5
Orckit	15	+0.0625
Oshap Technologies	9.3125	-0.0625
Paradigm Geophys	4.625	-0.4375
Pharmos	1.28125	-0.0625
Point of Sale	7.75	+0.0625
Rada Electronics Ind	0.96875	+0
Radcom Ltd	3	+0
RIT Technologies	1.8125	-0.0625
RSL Communications	26.5	-0.125
Scitex Corporations	9.5	-0.0625
Silicom	1.6875	0
Summit Design	3.5	-0.03125
Sapiens International	10.25	+0.1875
Scanvec	2.4375	+0
Tadiran Telecomm	20.3125	-0.0625
Taro Pharmaceuticals Ind	5.25	+0.125
Tat Technologies	1.5625	+0
Technomatix Technologies	14	-0.5
Teva	42.7188	-0.34375
Top Image Systems	4.5	-0.125
Top Image Systems Warrant	0.625	0
Tower Semiconductor	6.9375	+0
TTI Team Telecom Intl Ltd	8	+0.125
TVG Technologies	0.59375	-0.28125
TVG Tech A	0.125	0
TVG Tech B	0.1875	+0
TVG Tech C	0.15625	+0
Vocaltec	11.75	-0.1875
Wiz Tec Solutions	18.5	+0.375
Zoran Corporation	18	+0.125

NYSE

Amdocs	25.4375	+0.3125
Blue Square	11.9375	-0.0625
D.S.P. Communications	14.875	-0.5
Elscint	13.25	+0.0625
First Israel Fund	11.625	+0
PEC Israel Economic Corp	29	+0.125
Koor	19.25	-0.125
Simula Inc	6	-0.0625
Super-Sol Ltd	12.8125	+0.25
Tadiran	-	-
Tefron Ltd	8	-0.0625

SOURCE: S&P COMSTOCK (DATE 24-FEB-99)

LONDON

Batm Advanced	201	+0
Dmatek Ltd	29.25	-0.25
Pilat	13.5	+0
S.E.A. Multimedia	-	

SOURCE: S&P COMSTOCK (DATE 24-FEB-99)

INTERNATIONAL SHARES

NEW YORK

Alza	52.875	-0.5625
AMP Inc	53.3125	-0.125
AMR Corp	57.5	+1.9375
ASA	15.9375	+0
Abbott Labs	45.75	-1.4375
Advanced Micro	18.5625	-0.1875
Aetna Life	77.1875	-0.0625
Affiliated Publ	18.125	+0
Aflac	45.3125	-1.1875
Air Prods	31.75	-1.5
Alberto-Culv B	24.1875	-0.9375
Albertson's	54.5	-0.75
Alcan Aluminum	23.25	-0.1875
Allied Signal	42.3125	+0.1875
Alcoa	82.9375	+0.1875
Amazon	110.938	-4.25
Amerada Hess	43.9375	-0.75
Amer Brands	20.8125	-0.0625
Amer El Power	42.125	-0.5
Amer Express	107.688	-3.9375
Amer Genl Corp	73.75	-1.0625
Amer Greeting	23.875	-11.1875
Amer Home Pr	59.1875	-0.0625
Amer Intl	114	-5.9375
Amer Natl Ins	73.5	-1.5
Amer Power Conv	39.5	-0.3125
Amer Stores	31.875	-0.625
Amer T & T	84.625	-1.3125
Amer West Hldg	18.25	+0.125
Ameritech	65.625	+1.5625
Amesak Inc	16.875	-0.5
Amgen	127	-1.875
Amoco	-	-
Analog Devices	28.375	-0.1875
Andrew Corp	15.6875	-0.875
Anheuser-Busch	73.25	+1
Aon Corp	58.5	-1.75
Apple Computer	37.4375	-1
Applied Magnetics	4.1875	-0.125
Applied Materials	68.25	-0.1875
Archer Daniels	15.4375	-0.1875
Armco	4.75	-0.0625
Armstrong World	50.1875	-1.0625
Asarco	13.875	+0.0625
Ascend	75.5625	-3.6875
Ashland Coal	10.6875	-0.1875
Ashland Oil	44.0625	-0.1875
Atlantic Energy	21	-0.0625
Atlantic Rchfld	54.5	-1.3125
Auto Data Pro	41.0625	-0.6875
Autodesk	42.0625	+0.9375
Avery Dennison	53.625	-0.4375
Avnet Inc	41.75	-0.125
Avon Products	43	+0.0625
Baimco Corp	5.75	0
Baker Hughes	17.9375	+0.1875
Ball Corp	40.125	-0.875
Baltimore Gas	25.8125	-0.125
Banc One Corp	51	-2.1875
Bandag	31.8125	-1.125
BankAmerica	63.9375	-3
Bank of Boston	40.625	-0.875
Bank of New Yk	35.0625	-0.8125
Bankers Trst NY	88.0625	-0.625
Barnes & Noble	30.125	-1.0625
Battle Mount Gd	3.25	-0.0625
Bausch & Lomb	60.0625	+0.0625
Baxter Intl	70.0625	+1.5
Becton Dickinson	34.8125	+1
Bed Bath & Bynd	29.4375	-0.59375
Bell Atlantic	58.5625	+1.375
Bell Industries	11	-0.0625
BellSouth	47.5625	+1.25
HA Belo Corp	17.5625	+0.5625
Beneficial Corp	19.75	0
Bethlehem Steel	9.1875	+0.6875
Beverly Entprs	5.3125	-0.125
Biomet	37.3125	-0.6875
Black & Decker	48.0625	-0.0625
Boeing	35.875	-1.5
Boise Cascade	29.625	+0
Books a Million	11	-0.25
Borden Inc	20.625	-1.125
Bowater Inc	41	+0.9375
Briggs & Strtn	49.4375	-0.6875
Brist Myrs Sqb	129	-2.375
Brit Airws ADR	78.25	+0.125
Brit Steel ADR	19.4375	-0.125
Brit Telecom	179.938	+6.9375
Brown Group	15.1875	-0.0625
Brown & Sharpe	7.3125	-0.125
Browning Ferris	30.3125	-0.3125
Brunswick	20.8125	-0.9375
Burlington Nthn	33.625	-0.125
Burlington Res	31.8125	-0.75
CBS Inc	37.4375	-0.4375
CMS Energy Corp	42.125	-0.0625
CSX Corporation	38.9375	-0.125
Cabot Corp	24.375	-0.5
Campbell Soup	41	+0
Canadian Pac	18.4375	-0.5
Capital Cts ABC	52.25	-0.5
Capstead	4.8125	-0.0625
Caremark Corp	21.125	+1.125
Carnival Corp	46.3125	-0.0625
Carolina Pwr Lt	40.1875	+0.0625
Carpenter Tech	25.75	-0.875
Caterpillar	46	-0.9375
Centex Corp	36	-0.4375
Central & SW	24.9375	-0.4375
Ceridian	74.6875	+0.125
Champion Intl	38.125	+0.6875
Chrmg Shoppes	3.375	-0.09375
Chase Manhattan	78.875	-3
Chevron Corp	78.3125	-0.5
Citigroup Inc	57	-1.1875
Chiquita Brands	8.375	+0.0625
Cholestec	2.25	+0.125
Chubb Corp	61.3125	-1.0625
Cisco	99.9375	-8
Clevld Cliffs	36.0625	+0
Clorox	122.813	+0.1875
Coastal Corp	31.9375	+0.6875
Coca Cola	62.875	+0.125
Coca Cola Ent	32.25	-0.0625
Colgate Palmolv	86.0625	-0.875
Comcast Corp A	72.875	-2.5
Compaq	42.4375	-1.8125
Compute Ass Intl	49.75	+0.3125
Computer Sci	68	-0.375
Conagra	30.875	+0.125
Cons Edison	47	-0.6875
Cons Freightwys	42.5	+0.75
Cons Nat Gas	55	-0.0625
Cooper Inds	44.0625	-0.0625
Coors (Adolph)	56	-0.4375
Corning Inc	53.5	-1
Crane	28.1875	+0.5625
Crompton Knowles	18	+0.125
Crown Cork Seal	27.9375	-0.1875
Cummins Engine	41.75	-0.625
Curtiss-Wright	37.6875	-0.3125
Cypress Semicon	9.5	-0.125
Cyprus Mineral	11.25	+0.3125
Cytec Indust	26.5625	+0.625
Daimlerchrysle	100.938	+4.1875
DQE	38.4375	+0.0625
Dallas Sem	36.375	+0.5625
Dana Corp	41.0625	+0
Data General	14.9375	-0.75
Dayton Hudson	62.9375	-1.0625
De Beers	16.625	+0.375
Deere	33.4375	-0.3125
Dell Computers	83.25	-3.8125
Delta Air Lnes	60.75	+2.8125
Deluxe Corp	34.5625	-0.1875
Detroit Edison	39.8125	-0.1875
Dexl Corp Del	28.75	-0.625
Diebold Inc	30.125	-0.375
Dillard Dep St	25.25	-0.625
Disney (Walt)	35.0625	+0.1875
Dominion Res	39.25	+0.5
Donelley (RR)	34.4375	+0.4375
Dover Corp	33.875	+0.1875
Dow Chemcals	96.6875	-0.8125
Dow Jones	46.4375	+0.0625
Duke Power	57.8125	-0.1875
Dun & Bradst	32.8125	+0.375
Du Pont	53.1875	-0.3125
E G & G Corp	27.0625	-0.4375
Eastern Ents	38.375	-0.375
Eastman Kodak	68.9375	-0.5
Eaton Corp	66.9375	-1.9375
Egghead Com	16.6875	-0.75
Emerson Elec	58.8125	-0.625
Engelhard Corp	18.3125	+0.3125
Enron Corp	68.25	+2.9375
Entergy Corp	29.125	-0.3125
Enzo Biochem	11	-0.625
Equifax Inc	38	+0.125
Ericsson	28.75	-0.4375
Ethyl Corp	5	-0.1875
Exide Corp	15.5625	-0.1875
Exxon	67.8438	+0.09375
FMC Corp	51.5625	-1.3125
FPL Group	53	+0.6875
Fedders Corp	5.6875	-0.125
Federal Exprss	93.4375	+3.5625
Federal Mogul	50.3125	-0.0625
Fed Nat Mtge	69.25	-3.375
First Union	51.5	-2
Fruit of the Loom	11.75	-0.375
Fst Union Rty	4.1875	-0.125
Fleet Finl Grp	42.5	-1.5
Fleetwd Enterp	32.5625	+0.0625
Fleming Cos Ok	8.0625	+0.0625
Florida Prog	40.5	+0
Fluor Corp	34.5	-0.3125
Food Lion Inc	9.75	-0.28125
Ford Motor	59.5625	+0.3125
Fortune Brands	30	-0.3125
Foster Wheeler	12.3125	-0.0625
Furniture Brands	21	-0.75
Gateway 2000	79	-3.5
GATX Corp	35	+0.0625
GTE Corp	66.1875	+0.75
Gannett	65.1875	+0.125
Gap Inc Del	62.5625	-2.6875
Gencorp	19.6875	+0.0625
Gen Am Invest	31.125	-0.125
Gen Dynamics	58.875	-1.0625
Gen Electric	100.938	-2.0625
Gen Mills	81.625	+0.25
Gen Motors	85	-0.5625
Gen Motors H	48	+1.6875
Gen Public Util	41.5	+0.0625
Gen Reinsurnce	-	-
Gen DataComm	2.3125	-0.0625
Genuine Parts	30.3125	-0.5625
Georgia Pac	71.6875	+3.3125
Germany Fund	13.4375	-0.125
Gillette	54	-1.75
Glaxo ADR	65.3125	-2
Golden W Finl	94.375	-2.6875
Goodrich (BF)	34	-0.25
Goodyear Tire	47.1875	-0.875
Grace (W&R)	13	-0.375
Grainger (WW)	44.4375	+0.1875
Grt Atl Pac Tea	30.8125	-0.875
Grt Central Mine	2.6875	+0
Gulf Canada Rec	2.375	+0.0625
Halliburton	28.25	-0.8125
Hanna (MA)	10.875	-0.25
Harcourt	45.3125	-0.0625
Harley Davidson	58.625	-1.8125
Harnischfeger	7.375	+0
Harrah's Ent	17.4375	-0.5625
Harris Corp	31.875	-0.8125
Harsco Corp	28	+0.125
Hartmax	4.5	+0.0625
Hasbro	36.875	-1.4375
HBO & Co	-	-
Health Care Ppt	28.6875	+0
Hecla Mining	3.5	-0.125
Heinz (HJ)	56.375	-0.125
Helix Technol	22.125	-1.25
Hmrch & Payne	16.375	-0.375
Hercules	27.875	-0.3125
Hershey Foods	63.25	+0.6875
Hewlet Packard	70.75	-2.375
Hilton Hotels	15.8125	-0.75
Hirsch Int	3	+0
Hollinger	11.8125	-0.125
Home Depot	59.625	-0.9375
Homestake	9.375	-0.25
Honeywell	72.375	-0.5
Hormel (Geo)	36.8125	+0.25
Household Intl	40.625	-0.625
Houston Inds	-	-
Humana	17.75	-0.3125
IBM	173.75	-3.1875
Illinova Corp	23.625	-0.1875
Illinois Tool	69.8125	-1.6875
INCO	11.75	+0.5625
Ind Comm Bank	14.875	+0.1875
Ingersoll Rand	49.0625	+0.3125
Inland Steel	15.1875	+0.4375
Intel Corp	130.375	-3.875
Intergraph	5.625	-0.09375
Interlake	-	-
Intl Flav & Fr	40.875	-0.375
Intl Multifoods	21.3125	-0.3125
Intl Paper	42.9375	+0
Interpublic	75.625	-1.375
Jefferson Plt	69.25	-1.4375
Johnson & J	85.75	-1.625
K Mart	17.25	+0.125
K Tel Int	8.375	+0.125
Kaiser Alum	5.3125	+0.0625
Kellogg	37.875	-0.25
KLA Instruments	61.875	+0.1875
Kennametal	20.75	-0.0625
Kerr-McGee	26.875	-0.5625
KeyCorp	32.0625	-0.25
Kimberly-Clark	48.3125	+0.0625
King World Prod	26.375	+0.125
Knight Ridder	50.0625	-0.125
Kroger	62.9375	-1.3125
LSI Logic	29.25	-0.25
Leggett & Platt	21.125	-0.25
Leucadia Natl	30.125	+0
Lilly (Eli)	92.75	-3.6875
Limited Inc	36.6875	-0.5
Linear Technol	49.875	+1.75
Lincoln Nat	93.6875	+0.75
Litton	55.375	+0.9375
Liz Claiborne	33.0625	-0.5
Lockheed Corp	38.3125	+0.625
Loews Corp	78.875	-0.8125
Lone Star	33.375	+1
Longs Drug Strs	36.375	-0.25
Loral Corp	17.8125	-0.625
Louisiana Pacif	18.625	-0.0625
Lowe's Co Inc	58.5	+1.9375
Lucent Tech	102.75	-4.25
Lubrizol	19.375	+0.0625
Madge	3.75	+0
Mallinckrodt	31	-0.125
Mapco Inc	13.5625	-0.125
Marriott	37	-1.25
Mrsh & McLn	69	-3.25
Masco Corp	28.3125	-1.0625
Massmutual Corp	25.375	-0.125
Mattel Inc	26.625	-0.3125
May Dept St	60.375	+0
Maytag Corp	58	+0.0625
McDermott	19.375	-0.25
McDonalds	85	-0.6875
McGraw Hill	107.625	-2.375
McKesson Corp	71.8125	-0.1875
Mead Corp	29.4375	+0.3125
Medtronic	75.875	-1.125
Mellon Bk	57	-1.5625
Mentor Graphics	14.3125	-0.375
Merck Inc	79.5	-1.5625
Meredith Corp	33.6875	+0.0625
Merrill Lynch	75.6875	-1.0625
Micron Technol	72	+1.6875
Microsoft Corp	152.875	-2.5625
Millipore	27.3125	-0.125
Mine Safety App	62.375	+0
Minnesota Mine	76.1875	-1.625
Mitchell Energy	12.25	-0.375
Mobil Corp	84	-0.125
Molex Inc	23.5625	-0.375
Monarch Macht	7.125	-0.25
Monsanto	48	+0.4375
Morgan (JP)	111.625	-3.8125
Morton Intl	35.9375	+0.0625
Motorola Inc	72.625	+3.25
Murphy Oil	39.4375	-0.5
Nacco Inds	85.75	-1.125
Nalco Chemical	28	-0.75
Nashua Corp	11.875	+0
Natl City Corp	72.5625	-0.6875
Natl Semi	11.4375	-0.125
Natl Serv Ind	31.8125	-1.125
NatWest Bank	130	+4.125
Navistar Int	39.5	+1.5
Netscape	78.125	-1.25
New England El	48.9375	-0.1875
News Corp	28.625	-0.6875
NY Times	32.6875	+1.25
Newmont Mining	17.75	+0.125
Niag Mohawk	14.5	-0.0625
Nicor Inc	37.5	+0.0625
Nike Inc	54.0625	+0.125
NL Industries	9.8125	-0.0625
Noble Affl	22.375	+0.0625
Nokia	138.375	+1.3125
Nordstrom	39.8125	-1.75
Norfolk Southrn	29	+0.25
Northeast Util	14.875	-0.0625
Northern Telecom	63.0625	-1.5
Novell	19	-0.3125
Nthn State Pwr	26.125	-0.375
Northrop	52.75	+0.625
NSI	0.25	+0
Occidental Pet	15	+0.0625
Ogden Corp	24.25	-1
OEA	10.875	-1.0625
Ohio Casualty	39.9375	-0.0625
Olin Corp	12.875	-0.0625
Omnicom Group	65.8125	+0.6875
Oneok Inc	26.125	-0.4375
Oracle Systems	55.5675	-2.8125
Oryx Energy Co	10.5	-0.3125
Oshkosh B'gosh	18.75	+0.25
Overseas Ship	12.6875	-0.8125
Owens Corning	33.6875	-0.3125
PNC Financial	50.9375	-1.4375
PPG Industries	52.4375	+0.125
Paccar Inc	41.75	-1.625
Pac Gas & Elect	32	+0.0625
Pall Corp	21.3125	-0.125
Parker Drilling	2.625	-0.125
Parker Hannifin	38	-0.125
Payless Shoe	55.75	-0.875
Penney (JC)	38.625	-0.0625
Pennsyl Pwr Lt	26.375	-0.3125
Pennzoil	12.8125	-0.0625
People's Energy	33.5625	-0.1875
Pepsico	39	-0.5
Perkin Elmer	97	+1.3125
Pfizer	132.5	-1.375
Pharmacia & Up	54.625	-0.5
Phelps Dodge	48.0625	+0.375
Philadel Elec	36.5625	-1.125
Philip Morris	40.5625	-0.4375
Phillips Elec	71.1875	-2.25
Phillips Pet	38.5625	-0.125
Phycor Inc	6	-0.625
Pioneer Hi Bred	24.125	-0.5
Pitney Bowes	66.875	-1.6875
Policy Mgt Sys	38.8125	+0.1875
Polycom	22.5	-0.875
Potash Corp	57.0625	-0.9375
Potomac El Pwr	24.625	-0.125
Procter & Gamble	89.6875	-1.0625
Promus Hotel Cor	35.3125	-0.4375
Pub Svc Enterpr	39.625	+0.3125
Pug Snd Pwr	24.0625	-0.25
Quaker Oats	55.9375	-0.25
Qualcom	72.75	-0.875
Quanex Corp	17.875	-0.125
RJR Nabisco	26.9375	-0.0625
Ralston Purina	27.875	+0.1875
Rank Orgnsn ADR	7.5	-0.4375
Raychem Corp	22.375	-0.5
Raytheon A	52.375	+0.375
Raytheon B	52.5	-0.125
Reebok Intl	16.25	-0.375
Republic NY	44.25	-0.875
Reynolds Reyn A	19.875	-0.25
Reynolds Metals	42.125	-0.3125
Rite Aid Corp	44.25	+0.875
Rockwell Intl	47	-2.1875
Rohm & Haas	30.0625	+0.0625
Rouse	23.8125	+0.125
Rowan	8.625	-0.1875
Royal Dutch	43.375	+0.125
Rubbermaid	34.625	-1.125
Ruddick	17	-1
Russell Corp	19	-0.6875
Ryder System	27.375	-0.125
SPS Technology	39.0625	+0.3125
Safeco Corp	40.125	-0.75
Safety-Kleen	13.9375	+0.3125
St Paul's Cos	32.375	-1.125
Sara Lee Corp	26.75	+0.25
Schering Plough	55.1875	-0.125
Schlumberger	48.0625	-0.0625
Scientif Atlanta	33.125	-1.25
Scripps	41.9375	-0.1875
Seagate Tech	33.1875	+0.875
Seagram	46.75	-0.1875
Sears Roebuck	41.5	-0.125
Sempra Energy	21.3125	-0.25
Sensormatic Elec	10.25	-0.0625
Sequent Computer	9.84375	-0.40625
Service Corp I	15.4375	+0.0625
Service Master	19.125	+0.1875
Shell Trans	33.25	+0.5
Sherwn Wllms	23.75	+0.3125
Shoney's Inc	2.125	-0.25
Sigma Aldrich	26.5	-0.375
Silicon Graphics	16.875	-0.0625
Skyline Corp	28.9375	+0.8125
Smith Intl	24.9375	-0.1875
SmKline Bchm A	72.1875	-0.4375
Snap-On-Tools	29.6875	+0.5
Sonat	25.875	-0.0625
Sonocco Prods	24.6875	+0.4375
Sony Corp ADR	75.4375	-0.0625
Southdown	49.125	+0.875
Southern Co	25.0625	-0.5625
Southw Airlines	31	+0.4375
SBC Sthwstn Bell	54	+1.8125
Spring Inds	31.875	-1.25
Sprint Corp	86.5	-0.625
Standard Prods	14.875	-0.625
Stanley Works	24.6875	-0.1875
Storage Technol	35.75	-0.25
Sun America	1.0625	+0
Sunbeam Corp	5.5625	-0.1875
Sun Company	31.5625	-0.0625
Sundstrand	67.625	-0.3125
Sun Microsystms	101.063	-3.625
Sunshine Mining	0.625	-0.0625
Suntrust	67.25	-1.125
Supervalu	24.8125	+0.0625
Symantec	19.6875	-0.125
Sysco Corp	28.5	+0.125
TJX Cos Inc	28.9375	-0.25
TRW Inc	48.75	-0.75
Tab Products	5.3125	+0
Tandy Corp	56.375	-1.125
Telecom Corp	64	-1.6875
Telefonos de Mex	57.75	-0.375
Telef De Espana	138.063	+1
Temple Inland	59	+0.1875
Tenneco	30.6875	+0.4375
Tenet Health	19.625	-0.375
Teradyne	60.5625	+1.125
Tesoro Pet	8.125	-0.125
Texaco	47.6875	-0.875
Texas Instrmnts	103	+3
Texas Utilities	42.125	-0.3125
Textron	77.5	-1.5
Thomas & Betts	42	-1
ThreeCom	32.625	-2.03125
Time Warner	65.4375	+1.125
Times-Mirror	55.8125	-0.0625
Timken	18.375	+0
Torchmark	33.5	-1
Tosco Corp	20.3125	-0.3125
Toys R Us	15.1875	+0.25
Transamerica	72.125	+0.25
Transco Energy	57.875	-1.5625
Tribune	66.25	-0.3125
Triton Energy	5.5	-0.1875
TWA	6.1875	+0.0625
Tyco Intl Ltd	76.625	-1.5625
Tyler	5.75	-0.0625
UAL Corp	62	+0.25
USG Corp	52.5	-0.5
UST Inc	28.8125	-0.1875
USX Marathon	21.3125	-0.5625
USX-US Steel	25.375	-0.5625
Ultramar Diam	18.125	-0.125
Unocom Corp	35.875	+0
Unilever PLC	39.625	-0.5625
Unilever NV	74	-1.875
Union Camp	67.1875	-0.3125
Union Carbide	43.0625	+0.625
Union Pacific	47.5	-2.25
Unisys Corp	30.6875	-0.8125
USAir Group	48.75	+1
US Home	34.25	-0.875
US Trust	75.125	-0.3125
US West	56.375	-1.25
United Tech	124.125	-0.9375
Unocal Corp	27.5	-0.625
VF Corp	47.5625	-1.375
VMRX Pharmaceutic	1.25	+0
Valero Energy	18	+0.0625
Varian Assoc	33.75	-0.625
Viacom Inc	84.875	-2.125
Vishay	13	+0.75
Vulcan Materials	134	-0.125
Wachovia	86.375	-3.5
Walgreen	33.0625	+0.3125
Wal-Mart Stores	84.4375	-3.0625
Warner-Lambert	68.1875	-1.5
Wash Gas Light	23.375	-0.125
Washington Post	557.875	-10
Waste Mgmnt Inc	50.5	+2.1875
Watkins-Johnson	23.375	-0.125
Weis Markets	36.1875	+0.1875
Wells Fargo	36	-1.125
Wendy's Intl	24.375	+1.375
Westvaco	21.5625	+0.625
Weyerhaeuser	54.1875	+0.125
Whirlpool	42.625	-0.6875
Whitman	19	-0.0625
Williams Co	38	+1.25
Winn Dixie Stos	42.875	-1.0625
Woolworth	4.3125	-0.4375
World Comm	83.9375	+0
Worthington Ind	12.6875	-0.8125
Wrigley	97.625	-1.3125
Xerox	57.8125	-3.5625
Yahoo	150.188	-2.6875
Yellow Freight	18.5	+0.25

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ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates)

Currency (deposit for:)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar ($250,000)	4.770	4.800	5.090
Pound sterling (£100,000)	5.550	5.540	5.620
German mark (DM 200,000)	2.180	2.280	2.700
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	0.060	0.190	0.560
Yen (10 million yen)	—	—	—

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (24.2.99)

	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS Buy	Sell	BANKNOTES Buy	Sell	Rep. Rates**
Currency basket	4.3134	4.3830	—	—	4.3504
U.S. dollar	4.0201	4.0850	3.96	4.14	4.0500
EU euro	4.4138	4.4850	—	—	4.4669
German mark	2.2568	2.2933	2.23	2.32	2.2839
Pound sterling	6.4444	6.5484	6.34	6.63	6.4972
French franc	0.6729	0.6838	0.66	0.69	0.6810
Japanese yen (100)	3.3121	3.3656	3.26	3.41	3.3357
Dutch florin	2.0029	2.0353	1.98	2.06	2.0270
Swiss franc	2.7728	2.8176	2.73	2.85	2.8030
Swedish krona	0.4962	0.5043	0.49	0.51	0.5011
Norwegian krone	0.5099	0.5182	0.50	0.53	0.5162
Danish krone	0.5937	0.6033	0.58	0.61	0.6009
Finnish mark	0.7423	0.7543	0.73	0.77	0.7513
Canadian dollar	2.6773	2.7205	2.64	2.75	2.6926
Australian dollar	2.5417	2.5827	2.50	2.61	2.5618
S. African rand	0.6461	0.6566	0.58	0.66	0.6538
Belgian franc (10)	1.0941	1.1118	1.08	1.12	1.1073
Austrian schilling (10)	3.2073	3.2591	3.16	3.30	3.2463
Italian lira (1000)	2.2795	2.3163	2.25	2.35	2.3070
Jordanian dinar	5.6620	5.7534	5.42	5.91	5.7042
Egyptian pound	—	—	1.15	1.22	1.1863
Irish punt	5.6044	5.6948	5.52	5.77	5.6719
Spanish peseta (100)	2.6526	2.6956	2.62	2.73	2.6847

*These rates vary according to bank. **Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

Foreign financial data courtesy of
CommStock Trading Ltd.
Futures, Options, Stocks, Bonds and Mutual Funds
34 Ben Yehuda St., Jerusalem
Tel. 02-624-4963 Fax. 02-625-9515
http://www.commstock.co.il
E-mail: commstock@pobox.com

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Readers who wish to report missing or misquoted data should do so on postcards only, addressed to
Jerusalem Post Business Desk, P.O.B. 81, Jerusalem 91000

LONDON

Allied Domecq	471.5	+4
Allied Zurich	955.5	+39
BAT Inds	566.5	-1
BT	1118.5	+48
Barclays	1757	+31
Bass	812.5	+31
Boots	1010.5	+41
British Airways	483	+12.5
Comm Union plc	983.5	+54
Diageo	692.5	+30.5
General Electric	527.5	+14
Glaxo	2148	+77
Halifax	793.5	+17
HSBC (75p shs)	1783	+111
ICI	545.5	+6
Land Securities	806.5	+14.5
Lloyds Bank	941	+26
Marks & Spencer	401.75	+19.75
NatWest Bank	1374	+55
Prudential	889	+8.5
Reuters	885.5	+16
Sainsbury	369.75	+9
Shell Transport	342.5	+8
Tyco Intl	4450	+100
Unilever	621	-2
Zeneca	2670	+36

PARIS

Accor	220	-5
Air Liquide	145.1	+0.8
Alcatel Alsthom	104.3	+3.4
Euro Disney	1.19	-0.01
Michelin B	41	+0
Moulinex	9.67	+0.12
Paribas	78.6	-1.8
Pernod Ricard	57.75	+0.25
Peugeot	125.1	-2.9
Saint Gobain	138	+0

FRANKFURT

Bayer	32.75	+0.55
Daimler-Benz	-	-
Lufthansa	19.83	+0.33
Mannesmann	-	-
Metallgesellschaft	16.25	-0.15
Volkswagen	63.3	-2.75

SOURCE: S&P COMSTOCK (DATE 24-FEB-99)

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

	Last	Change
Sel (Basket) (1)	4.3504	0
U.S. Dollar (1)	4.05	0
British Pound (1)	6.6973	0
Deutsch Mark (1)	2.2839	0
French Franc (1)	0.681	0
Japanese Yen (100)	3.3357	0
Swiss Franc (1)	2.803	0
Canadian Dollar (1)	2.6926	0
Italian Lira (1000)	2.307	0
Jordanian Dinar (1)	5.7042	0

NEW YORK MARKET INDEXES

	Last	Change
DJ Industrials	9399.67	-144.75
DJ Transport	3249.6	+27.88
DJ Utils	297.44	+1.17
DJ Comp	2907.84	-19.87
NYSE Industr	738.86	-7.19
NYSE Transport	483	+2.49
NYSE Comp	591.57	-5.45
S&P 100	624.35	-10.5
S&P Spot Index	1253.41	-17.77
Israel Index	296.78	-1.12

	Last	Change
FTSE 100	6307.7	+152.5
Tokyo Nikkei	14355.4	-145.2
Singapore all-share index	382.44	+3.1
Hong Kong Hang Seng Index	9677.5	+243.6
Israel Index	296.78	-1.12
Paris CAC 40	4213.7	+5.75
DAX	4987.56	+142.38
Madrid	899.49	+16.76
Swiss Market Index	7233.7	+88
Sydney	2934.5	+2642.1
Milan	1517.68	+13.31

DOLLAR CROSSRATES (US)

	Last	Change
Pound: spot	1.5965	-0.018
Mar.future (CME)	1.5956	-0.017
D-mark: spot	1.7772	+0.0008
Mar.future (CME)	0.5623	-0.001
S-franc: spot	1.4458	-0.0018
Mar.future (CME)	0.6917	-0.0003
Yen: spot	121.84	+0.9
Mar.future (CME)	0.008233	-5.9e-005
CanDlr: spot	1.4995	+0.0048
Mar.future (CME)	0.6678	-0.0005
AusDlr: spot	0.6329	-0.0074
Mar.future (CME)	0.6321	-0.0088
F-franc: spot	5.9605	+0.0027
It Lira: spot	1759.5	+1
Nlg: spot	2.0025	+0.0009
AuSthg: spot	12.5082	0
Rand: spot	6.19	-0.005
EURO: spot	1.1003	-0.0007

US COMMODITIES

	Last	Change
Cocoa (Mar) (CEC)	1295	-10
Coffee (Mar) (CEC)	106	+0.1
Wheat (Mar) (CBOT)	244.25	-7.5
Soybean (Mar) (CBOT)	457.5	-16.5
Orange juice (Mar)(CEC)	89	-2.95
Crude Oil (Mar)(NYMEX)	-	-
Bonds Mar.future	12129	-33
S and P Mar.future	1253	-22.5

LONDON COMMODITIES

	Last	Change
Cocoa (Mar) (LCE)	923	-3
Coffee (Mar) (LCE)	1716	-2
Sugar (May) (LCE)	218.5	-1.3
Brent crude oil (Apr)(IPE)	11.08	+0.14

SPOT MARKET METALS (US)

	Last	Change
Silver: spot	5.41	-0.09

NEW YORK METAL FUTURES

	Last	Change
Gold (Apr)	289.2	+0.5
Silver (Mar)	5.373	-0.087
Platinum (Apr)	363.2	-0.9
Palladium (Mar)	350.6	+4.2
High-grade copper (Mar)	0.6195	+0.001

LONDON METAL FIXES

	Last	Change
Gold AM fix	286.1	-0.55
Gold PM fix	287.4	+0.7
Silver fix	550	-0.5

Month in parentheses signals contract exp date (Spot market listings are from approximately 23:30 Israel time. All others are closing quotes.)

SOURCE: S&P COMSTOCK (DATE 24-FEB-99)

AMEX

Am Israel Paper Mills	37.125	+0.25
Ampal American Israel	4.125	+0.25
Carmel Container Sys.	5.875	0
Electro Chemical Ind.	0.6875	0
Emultek	8.125	-0.375
Etz Lavud	8.4375	0
Etz Lavud Cl A	5.125	0
Integrated Technology	1.6875	0

NASDAQ

ACS Electronics Ltd	2	+0
Accent Software	0.25	+0
A.G. Associates	5.375	+0
Aladdin	10.625	-0.25
Ampal	11.375	0
Arel Common & Software	5.75	-0.3125
Arel Comm & Soft Warrant	1.0625	+0.03125
Better Online Solutions	4.75	-0.3125
Better Online Sol Ltd 99	0.375	0
Biogen Inc	96	-1.75
Bio Technology General	6.5	-0.15625
B.V.R. Systems Ltd	8.9375	+0
B.V.R. Technologies	2.75	+0.125
Checkpoint Software	41	+0.625
Cimatron	1.71875	-0.03125
Commtouch Technology	74.5	-0.625
Crystal Systems Solutions	8.125	-0.125
D.S.P.G. Group	14.9375	+0.8125
D.S.P.T. Tech	5.625	-0.625
Data Systems Software	2.0625	-0.09375
ECI Telecom	37.6875	+0.6875
Edusoft	7.8125	+0.0625
Electric Fuel	3.4375	-0.1875
Electronics for Imaging	35	-1.625
Elbit Computers	3.8125	+0.125
Elron Electronics ord	17.25	+0.375
Elbit Medical Imaging	11.9375	+0.5
Elbit Systems Ltd	13.625	+0.5
Eltek Circuit Boards	0.90625	0
Engel General Developers	2	-0.125
ESC Medical Systems Ltd	5.125	-0.1875
Elbit Vision Systems	1.8125	+0.03125
Eshed Robotec (1982)	0.375	0
Formula Systems (1985)	25.75	-1.875
Fourth Dimension Software	-	-
Foxsoft Ltd	9.625	-0.25
Fundtech	22	+0
Galileo	24.25	+0.75
G.Willi-Food	1.1875	+0.125
Gilat Comm Ltd	9.1875	+0.0625
Gilat Satellite Networks	60.5	-0.75
Genesis Bnis	2.875	-0.125
Healthcare Technologies	1	+0
Home Center	3.875	+0
I.C.T.S.	5	0
IIC Industries	11.125	0
I.I.S. Intelligent Info	0.53125	-0.15625
Israel Land Develop - ADR	15	-
Indigo	4.3125	-0.0625
ISG Intl Software Group	11.3125	+0.1875
Isramco	2.125	+0
Lan Optics	2.1875	+0

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

Thursday, February 25
EMERGENCY PHARMACIES
Jerusalem: Super Pharm, 3 Hahistadrut, 624-6244; Balsam, Salah a-Din, 627-2315; Shuafat, Shuafat Road, 581-0108; Dar Aldawa, Herod's Gate, 628-2058.
Tel Aviv: Superpharm, 40 Einstein, 641-3730; New Pharm Gan Ha'ir, 71 Ibn Gvirol, 527-9317.
Ra'anana-Kfar Sava: Arim mall, Katznelson, Kfar Sava, 767-7308.
Netanya: Kupat Holim Meccabi, 15 Smilansky, 860-5204.
Haifa: Superpharm Lev Hamifratz, 53 Hahistadrut, 841-6437; Hadas, 53 Horev, 826-2673.
Krayot area: Motzkin, 64 Moshe Goshen, Kiryat Motzkin, 873-7243.
Herzliya: New Pharm, Beit Merkazim, 6 Maskit (cnr. Sderot Hagalim), Herzliya Pituah, 954-9903. Open 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Upper Nazareth: New Pharm, Lev Ha'ir Mall, 657-0468. Open 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

DUTY HOSPITALS
Jerusalem: Bikur Holim (internal, ENT); Shaare Zedek (surgery, orthopedics, obstetrics); Hadassah Ein Kerem (pediatrics, ophthalmology).
Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center Dana Pediatric Hospital (pediatrics); Tel Aviv Medical Center (surgery).
Netanya: Laniado.

POLICE	**100**
FIRE	**102**
FIRST AID	**101**

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In emergencies dial 101 in most parts of the country. In addition:

Ashdod* 8551333	Kfar Sava* 9902222
Ashkelon 6551332	Nahariya* 9912333
Beersheba* 6274767	Netanya* 8604444
Beit Shemesh 6523133	Petah Tikva* 9311111
Dan Region* 5793333	Rehovot* 9451333
Eilat* 6332444	Rishon* 9642333
Haifa* 8512233	Safed 6920333
Jerusalem* 6523133	Tel Aviv* 5460111
Karmiel* 9985444	Tiberias* 6792444

* Mobile Intensive Care Unit (MICU) service in the area, around the clock.

Help line for English-speakers – Confidential hot-line counseling and referrals for all ages, all problems. MiLev Center for Crisis Counseling. (02) 654-1111, 1-800-654-111.
Medical help for tourists (in English) 177-022-9110.
The National Poison Control Center at Rambam Hospital 04-852-9205, 24 hours a day, for information in case of poisoning.
Eran – Emotional First Aid – 1201, also Jerusalem 02-561-0303 (Arabic: 563-0301); Tel Aviv 03-546-1111 (children/youth 546-0739); Rishon Lezion 03-956-6661/2; Haifa 04-867-2222 (Arabic: 867-2226); Beersheba 07-649-4333; Netanya 09-862-5110; Karmiel 04-988-8770 (Arabic: 958-3444); Kfar Sava 09-767-4555; Hadera 06-634-6789; Nazareth (Arabic: 06-645-4222).
Crisis Center for Religious Women 02-655-5744/5. 24-hour service, confidentiality guaranteed.
Wizo hotlines for battered women 02-651-4111, 03-546-1133, 07-637-6310, 08-855-0506.
Rape Crisis Center (24 hours), Tel Aviv 523-4819, 544-9191 (men), Jerusalem 625-5558, Haifa 853-0533, Eilat 633-1977.
Hadassah Medical Organization – Israel Cancer Association support service, 02-624-7676.
Flight arrivals – for information in English 03-972-3344.

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HADASSAH. Visit the Hadassah installations, Chagall Windows. Tel. (02) 641-6333, (02) 677-6271.

TEL AVIV
Museums
TEL AVIV MUSEUM OF ART. Ninety Years of Israeli Art – selection from the Joseph Hackmey-Israel Phoenix Collection. Avigdor Arikha – drawings. Hedva Ser – Aubusson Tapestries. Jozef Israëls, paintings; Isaac Israëls: Chronicler of Life. "A Point of View" – children's exhibition. Collections.

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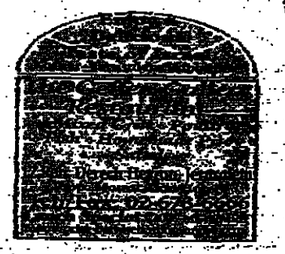
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Modano hat-trick sparks Stars past Predators

NASHVILLE (AP) — Mike Modano second hat-trick in three games, including the winning goal with 4:23 left gave league-leading Dallas a 4-3 victory over the expansion Nashville Predators.

Canucks 4, Avalanche 4

Adam Deadmarsh scored his second goal of the game at 7:09 of the third period, lifting host Colorado into a tie.

It was a franchise-record fourth consecutive tie for the Avalanche, who have gone 0-2-4 since their 12-game winning streak ended February 7.

Bruins 5, Senators 2

Rookie right wing Cameron Mann scored Boston's final two goals as the host Bruins snapped Ottawa's four-game winning streak. The Bruins won their second straight game for only the second time this month.

Senators goalie Ron Tugnutt (17-7-5) was chased from the net after the first period when the Bruins scored three goals on 14 shots, taking a 3-1 lead.

McEachern and Magnus Arvedson had the other Ottawa goals.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Philadelphia	39	14	13	73	178	122
New Jersey	32	20	7	71	174	149
Pittsburgh	31	18	7	69	177	151
N.Y. Rangers	23	28	7	53	160	165
N.Y. Islanders	18	34	7	43	139	178
Northeast Division						
Ottawa	32	17	8	72	166	123
Toronto	32	21	4	68	184	172
Buffalo	27	19	11	65	156	124
Boston	24	24	9	57	147	134
Montreal	23	28	8	54	139	154
Southeast Division						
Carolina	27	22	10	64	156	149
Florida	21	21	15	57	142	147
Washington	24	28	5	53	145	150
Tampa Bay	12	41	5	29	119	213

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Detroit	31	23	5	67	175	147
St. Louis	23	23	18	56	157	145
Nashville	28	32	6	46	138	189
Chicago	16	35	8	40	131	190
Northwest Division						
Colorado	29	21	8	66	158	143
Edmonton	22	27	8	52	155	149
Calgary	21	28	9	51	151	168
Vancouver	18	32	8	44	146	186
Pacific Division						
Dallas	36	10	9	81	163	110
Phoenix	29	18	10	68	146	128
Anaheim	24	25	9	57	155	147
San Jose	20	25	13	53	132	136
Los Angeles	21	32	5	47	135	158



CLOSE QUARTERS – Canucks Markus Naslund (19) scores against Avalanche goalie Craig Billington in first-period action. The game ended 4-all. (Reuters)

Scholastic hoops tournament set for capital

By HEATHER CHAIT

Jerusalem will host the International Schools Basketball Championships from May 5-12 with 24 countries and 48 teams participating.

The tournament is organized by the International School Sports Federation and brings together youth between the ages of 15-18.

The countries competing are Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, China, Czech Republic, Denmark, England, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden and Turkey.

National school championships were held in these countries, all members of FIBA, to determine the team to be sent to Jerusalem.

Notably absent from this list are the United States, which has not competed in this tournament for the past six years, and Australia.

The draw was held last night at the Jerusalem Municipality in the presence of sports officials and ambassadors from several competing countries with the teams in both the boys and girls sections being divided into eight pools.

Greece and Turkey, the favorites, will lead Groups A and H in both sections. In the boys' category, Israel will play Italy and Slovakia on the first day, with the girls up against Belgium and Slovakia.

Paul Geimer, President of the Technical Committee of the ISF, predicts a good level of play. "New techniques and coaching methods will make for an interesting tournament," he said. As for the no-show of the US, Geimer explained that the American system lacks a united federation for school basketball which makes it difficult to select one school team.

Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert used the ceremony to publicize his personal aim. "Jerusalem will one day soon host the world basketball championships, the real one!"

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SPORTS

The local scene

Youth ice hockey team in Euro championships

Israel is sending 20 ice hockey players to participate in the European Youth Championships to be held in Sofia, Bulgaria, starting February 28. Twelve countries will compete in the tournament (open to 15-17 year-olds), with four sections of three teams each. Israel is in a group with Greece and Belgium.

According to coach Semyon Yakubovitch, "the team has a reasonable chance of acquitting itself well. Last month's trip to North America gave the team a sense of reality as to the type of competition that they will be facing."

Spector wins on Caesarea links

A 12-under par 134 gave Faith Spector, Uri Aylon, Dudley Kessel and Jules Cuburnek first place in Friday's two best balls stroke play competition at Caesarea. Two strokes behind were David Edel, Shmulik Futeran, Ben Hoffman and George Host while third place on 137 went to Harold Stutzen, Lenny Landes and Mati and Malca Geri.

Saturday's K-C two best balls stableford competition was won by Aviv Levi, Muli Timor and Hushman Yazdani and Ali Nakjavani from Haifa's Bahai community with 79 points. In second place with 78 points were Mike Mannor, Sefi Halfon, Dennis Goldstein and Stutzen. Cuburnek had the day's best individual score, a one over par

Carrera helps Netanya to rugby victory

With two teams beset with squad problems, only one match of the weekend's rugby league took to the field.

Beersheba and Ra'anana found themselves forced to cancel their scheduled games but league leaders Hapoel Netanya forged ahead, beating Rishon Lezion 16-5. Dion Carrera and Sasha Volkov were the respective try scorers for Netanya and Rishon while fullback Darren Pincus converted the try and added three penalties of his own to swell the Netanya scorecard.

This weekend the second training session of the senior national team will be held at Pardes Hanna, putting the league games on hold.

Capital cyclists want bike paths

"We're not stopping the traffic – we are the traffic" say cyclists from Jerusalem for Bicycles.

As on the last Friday of every month, the group will gather tomorrow at 1 pm in front of the Mashbir for their Critical Mass ride in the downtown area. The movement is picking up speed around the country – monthly CM rides are now held in Tel Aviv, Haifa, Ashkelon and Rishon Lezion.

The Jerusalem branch is pressing for the municipality to institute bicycle paths and will be making an all-out effort so that this month's ride will bring together the largest number of two-wheelers yet in the capital.

Compiled by Heather Chait

Mourning, Hardaway topple Wizards

WASHINGTON (AP) – Alonzo Mourning had 29 points and 12 rebounds, while Tim Hardaway, who put on a great third-quarter shooting duel with Mitch Richmond, scored 20 as the Miami Heat beat the Washington Wizards, 96-80 for their sixth straight victory.

Mourning, averaging 26 points in 20 regular-season games against Washington, took over late in the third quarter, scoring back-to-back baskets before rejecting Tracy Murray's jumper at the buzzer. The 8-0 spurt at the end of the period gave the Heat the lead for good at 70-63.

Pistons 106, Raptors 80

Joe Dumars returned to host Detroit's lineup with 16 points and five assists. Dumars, playing in his 14th and final season, missed four games with a strained hamstring.

Knicks 82, Nets 74

Patrick Ewing had 20 points, 11 rebounds and seven blocked shots and the Knicks used their league-leading defense to hold visiting New Jersey to 29 percent shooting.

Rockets 98, SuperSonics 86

Rookie Cuttino Mobley scored 13 of his career-high 19 points in a tense fourth quarter as Houston won at home.

Mavericks 89, Hawks 85

Michael Finley scored six points in the final 81 seconds as the Mavericks snapped a four-game losing streak to Atlanta and won at home for the first time this season.

Bucks 90, Bulls 88

Glenn Robinson's dunk with four seconds left sealed the victory for visiting Milwaukee, who blew a 13-point lead and barely held off the Bulls. It was the fifth straight loss at home for the Bulls (2-9), who were playing their third game in three nights.

Warriors 94, Clippers 89

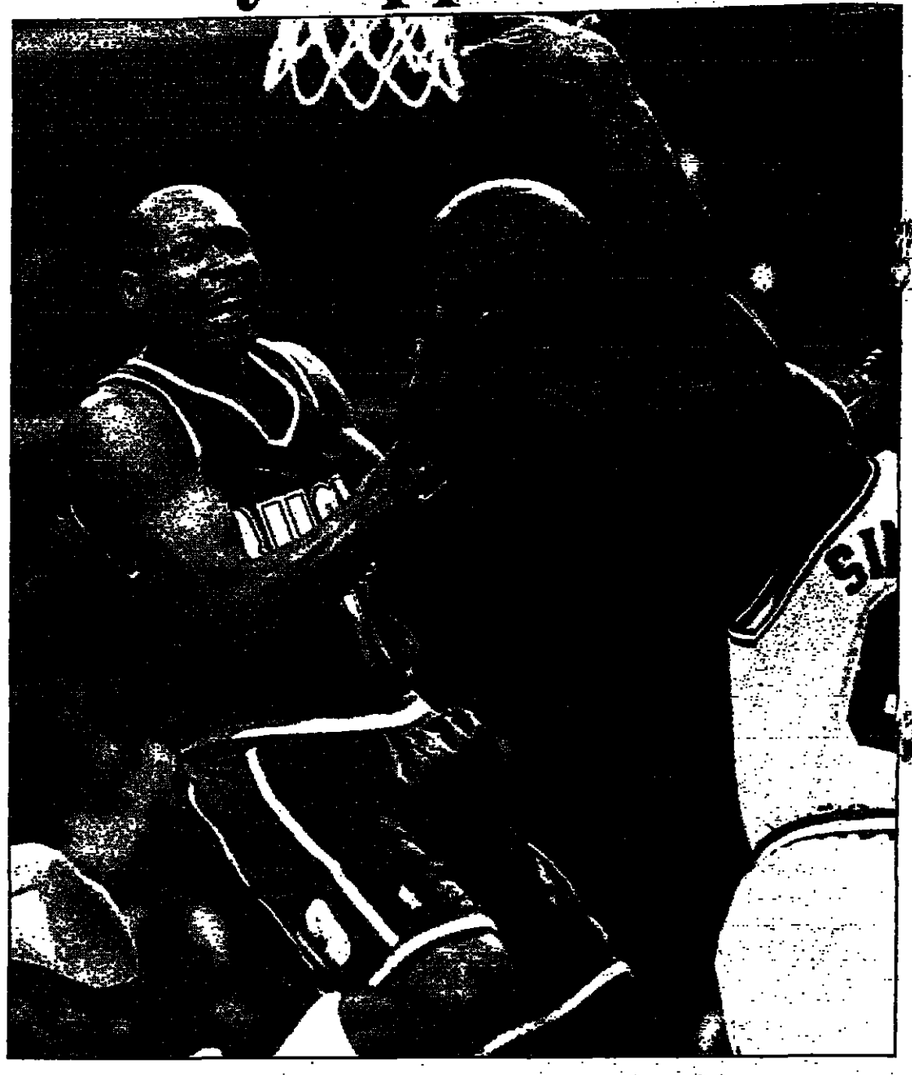
Bimbo Coles hit a pair of 20-foot jumpers to draw visiting Golden State even in the closing moments, then added four free throws in the last 18 seconds.

Coles finished with 15 points for Golden State, winner of five of its last six after an 0-5 start.

Grizzlies 93, Lakers 83

A night after losing 117-113 in overtime to Denver, the visiting Lakers dropped their third game in as many days. The Grizzlies beat the Lakers for the first time in franchise history, after going 0-12.

Shareef Abdur-Rahim scored seven of his game-high 28 points in the final 1:39 to seal the win.



Bucks forward Glenn Robinson goes up for two as Bulls' Dickey Simpkins defends. Milwaukee won 90-88. (Reuters)

Miami	20	22	28	26	96
Washington	18	29	16	17	80

MIAMI (96) Majerle 0-3 0-0 0, P.Brown 4-8 1-2 9, Mourning 9-20 11-16 29, Walters 3-4 0-0 7, Hardaway 6-18 1-2 20, Porter 5-8 5-7 15, Askins 2-4 0-0 5, Weatherspoon 3-7 0-0 6, Edwards 2-6 0-0 4, Causwell 0-0 0-0 0, M.Strickland 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 38-79 18-29 96.

WASHINGTON (80) Howard 4-12 0-1 8, Jackson 4-8 0-0 8, T.Daws 0-1 2-2 2, R.Strickland 3-13 4-4 10, Richmond 10-16 4-4 25, Chesney 4-10 0-0 10, Wallace 1-3 0-0 2, Thorpe 3-5 0-0 6, Whitney 2-4 1-2 7, Murray 0-5 0-0 0, White 1-1 0-2 2, McInnis 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 32-79 11-15 80.

Fouled out–None. Rebounds–Miami 60 (Mourning 13), Washington 45 (Wallace 13). Assists–Miami 24 (Hardaway 6), Washington 22 (R.Strickland 8). A–12,879 (20,674).

Toronto	22	21	22	15	80
Detroit	19	29	26	32	106

TORONTO (80) Oakley 3-9 2-2 8, V.Carter 3-11 1-2 7, Willis 5-12 2-4 12, Christie 6-13 0-0 12, A.Williams 1-4 0-0 2, Wallace 4-8 6-6 14, McGrady 4-9 1-2 9, Brown 3-7 0-0 9, Stewart 1-2 0-0 2, Slater 1-2 2-4 4, Knight 0-0 1-2 1. Totals 31-77 15-22 80.

DETROIT (106) Hill 6-12 2-2 14, Reid 4-8 1-1 9, Dele 1-2 0-0 2, Dumars 5-8 2-2 16, Hunter 4-8 2-2 10, Montross 1-1 0-0 2, Vaught 7-11 0-0 14, Stackhouse 5-14 5-6 18, O'Bannon 1-3 0-0 2, J.Williams 4-6 4-6 12, Buechler 2-2 0-0 5, Beck 1-1 0-0 2. Totals 42-76 16-19 106.

Fouled out–None. Rebounds–Toronto 33 (Wallace, Christie, 5), Detroit 57 (Hill 9). Assists–Toronto 18 (Christie, McGrady 4), Detroit 29 (Hill 10). A–14,187 (22,076).

New Jersey	20	14	23	17	74
New York	19	18	21	24	82

NEW JERSEY (74) Gill 6-14 4-5 16, Van Horn 5-17 3-4 13, J.Williams 0-5 1-2 1, Kittles 5-21 0-0 12, Cassell 5-14 8-8 18, Murdock 1-5 4-4 6, Burrell 2-5 2-2 6, McIlvaine 1-4 0-0 2, Gatling 0-1 0-0 0, Jones 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 25-86 22-25 74.

NEW YORK (82) Johnson 5-8 2-2 13, Thomas 2-6 0-0 4, Ewing 8-21 4-10 20, Houston 4-11 4-4 14, Ward 4-7 1-2 10, Dudley 0-1 0-0 0, Childs 4-6 2-2 11, Scott 0-2 0-0 0, Camby 4-7 1-2 9, Brunson 0-0 1-2 1. Totals 31-89 15-24 82.

Fouled out–None. Rebounds–New Jersey 55 (Van Horn 13), New York 56 (Johnson, Ewing 11). Assists–New Jersey 13 (Cassell 5), New York 19 (Childs, Ward 5). A–19,763 (19,763).

Seattle	23	23	16	24	86
Houston	29	25	15	29	98

SEATTLE (86) Schrempf 9-16 0-0 20, Baker 4-13 1-4 9, Polynice 0-3 1-2 1, Lewis 0-0 0-0 0, Payton 11-22 2-5 25, Hawkins 4-11 2-2 12, Williams 0-3 2-2 2, Ellis 4-9 3-4 12, Norris 0-4 2-2 2, Stepania 1-1 0-0 2, Cotton 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 33-82 13-21 86.

Fouled out–None. Rebounds–Miami 60 (Mourning 13), Washington 45 (Wallace 13). Assists–Miami 24 (Hardaway 6), Washington 22 (R.Strickland 8). A–12,879 (20,674).

Toronto	22	21	22	15	80
Detroit	19	29	26	32	106

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DETROIT (106) Hill 6-12 2-2 14, Reid 4-8 1-1 9, Dele 1-2 0-0 2, Dumars 5-8 2-2 16, Hunter 4-8 2-2 10, Montross 1-1 0-0 2, Vaught 7-11 0-0 14, Stackhouse 5-14 5-6 18, O'Bannon 1-3 0-0 2, J.Williams 4-6 4-6 12, Buechler 2-2 0-0 5, Beck 1-1 0-0 2. Totals 42-76 16-19 106.

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Seattle	23	23	16	24	86
Houston	29	25	15	29	98

SEATTLE (86) Schrempf 9-16 0-0 20, Baker 4-13 1-4 9, Polynice 0-3 1-2 1, Lewis 0-0 0-0 0, Payton 11-22 2-5 25, Hawkins 4-11 2-2 12, Williams 0-3 2-2 2, Ellis 4-9 3-4 12, Norris 0-4 2-2 2, Stepania 1-1 0-0 2, Cotton 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 33-82 13-21 86.

Fouled out–None. Rebounds–Seattle 49 (Polynice 9), Houston 54 (Olajuwon, Pippen 10). Assists–Seattle 16 (Payton 10), Houston 28 (Price 6). A–16,285 (16,285).

Atlanta	20	18	21	26	85
Dallas	17	30	23	19	89

ATLANTA (85) Ellis 4-9 1-2 9, Henderson 4-14 5-6 13, Mutombo 2-5 6-11 10, Blaylock 10-22 0-1 22, Gray 2-9 1-2 6, Corbin 0-0 0-0 0, Johnson 3-7 0-0 7, Long 0-3 2-2 2, McLeod 7-16 2-2 16, West 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 32-88 17-26 85.

DALLAS (89) Green 4-8 0-0 8, Ceballos 3-11 0-0 7, Bradley 5-10 3-3 9, Finley 7-11 6-6 22, Nash 1-3 1-1 4, Pack 6-13 3-4 15, Trent 4-13 4-4 12, Nowitzki 1-1 0-0 2, Davis 2-5 0-0 5, Ansley 2-4 1-1 5. Totals 33-81 18-19 89.

Fouled out–None. Rebounds–Atlanta 54 (Mutombo 12), Dallas 48 (Trent 10). Assists–Atlanta 18 (Blaylock, Johnson 4), Dallas 23 (Pack 8). A–13,387 (18,042).

Milwaukee	25	24	23	17	90
Chicago	29	16	18	25	88

MILWAUKEE (90) Robinson 12-19 0-0 24, Hill 4-10 1-2 9, Traylor 0-3 0-0 0, Brandon 5-12 0-0 10, Allen 6-11 3-3 15, Johnson 2-5 0-0 4, M.Curry 0-4 0-0 0, D.Curry 7-12 0-0 18, Gilliam 1-2 2-4 4, Dal Negro 2-5 2-2 7. Totals 39-83 8-11 90.

CHICAGO (88) Bryant 6-10 4-4 16, Kukoc 7-20 3-3 19, Simpkins 1-4 2-5 4, Brown 2-4 2-2 6, Harper 4-12 2-2 11, Barry 3-6 7-9 15, Lang 1-2 2-2 4, David 3-4 2-2 8, Jones 1-5 0-0 3, LaRue 0-2 0-0 0, Booth 0-3 0-0 0, Carr 0-2 2-2 2. Totals 28-74 26-31 88.

Fouled out–None. Rebounds–Milwaukee 45 (Johnson 10), Chicago 52 (Kukoc 11). Assists–Milwaukee 23 (Brandon 14), Chicago 24 (Kukoc 7). A–22,302 (21,711).

L.A. Lakers	23	18	20	22	83
Vancouver	24	17	24	28	93

L.A. LAKERS (83) Jones 6-12 1-1 15, Knight 2-4 4-4 8, O'Neal 7-13 12-18 26, Bryant 5-21 1-3 11, Harper 3-11 1-1 7, Blount 1-1 0-0 2, Campbell 1-5 0-0 2, Fisher 1-5 4-4 9, Fox 0-2 0-0 0, Rooks 2-5 2-2 6. Totals 28-79 25-33 83.

VANCOUVER (93) Abdur-Rahim 6-18 16-19 28, Smith 2-4 1-2 6, Reeves 2-9 3-5 7, Mack 1-6 0-0 3, Bibby 5-17 2-2 13, Massenburg 3-8 5-7 11, Bailey 3-4 2-2 8, West 7-10 2-4 16, Wingate 0-0 0-0 0, Lopez 0-0 2-4 2. Totals 29-66 33-45 93.

Fouled out–Fox, Knight, Reeves, Mack. Rebounds–L.A. Lakers 54 (O'Neal 10), Vancouver 56 (Abdur-Rahim 14). Assists–L.A. Lakers 19 (O'Neal 7), Vancouver 22 (Bibby 8). A–19,193 (19,193).

Golden State	22	28	15	28	94
L.A. Clippers	25	18	25	21	89

GOLDEN STATE (94) Oakley 2-5 2-6 6, Mills 5-12 1-1 11, Dampier 3-11 2-4 8, Delk 3-8 2-2 8, Starks 7-15 3-4 18, Coles 5-7 5-5 15, Marshall 5-12 2-2 13, Cummings 2-6 0-0 4, Jamison 5-6 1-3 11, Spencer 0-0 0-0 0.

Totals 37-82 18-24 94.

L.A. CLIPPERS (89) Murray 12-22 6-9 30, Taylor 11-22 1-1 23, Olowokandi 2-4 0-1 4, Piatkowski 1-5 1-2 3, Martin 2-5 2-2 7, Robinson 4-9 0-0 8, Neeby 0-2 0-0 0, Wright 2-6 0-1 4, Rogers 0-1 2-2 2, Douglas 2-2 4-4 8.

Totals 35-78 18-22 89.

Fouled out–None. Rebounds–Golden State 54 (Mills 10), L.A. Clippers 45 (Taylor 11). Assists–Golden State 23 (Starks 10), L.A. Clippers 11 (Martin 4). A–8,568 (16,021).

Van Exel: 'It depends upon Rodman's attitude'

LOS ANGELES (AP) – Dennis Rodman signed a one-year contract with the Los Angeles Lakers on Tuesday and was slated to participate in a limited practice session yesterday before attending the Grammy Awards with his wife, actress Carmen Electra.

Rodman, who turns 38 in May, is expected to begin his Los Angeles basketball tenure tomorrow night against the Los Angeles Clippers at the Forum.

Meanwhile, former Lakers point guard Nick Van Exel believes his former team could be making a mistake by adding Rodman.

Of course, Van Exel, who was traded to the Denver Nuggets on draft day last summer after five controversial seasons with the Lakers, might not be the most objective observer.

"He (Lakers coach Del Harris) thought I was a problem? I want to see Dennis go over there personally," Van Exel said after helping the Nuggets beat the Lakers 117-113 in overtime Monday night in Denver for only their second victory of the season.

"I want to see how Del handles it. ... My honest opinion is, it depends on Dennis Rodman's attitude," Van Exel said. "If he comes in with his great rebounding, the intensity he always brings to the game, he's going to be great for that team. If he come in with all his antics and just thinking about Dennis Rodman the show, he's going to kill that team."

Tennis pro killed in car accident

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla (AP) – Menno Oosting, a professional tennis player from the Netherlands, was killed in a car accident on Monday night, the ATP Tour said.

According to the player's association, Oosting, 34, was returning home from a tournament in Cherbourg, France, when his car struck a light pole around midnight in Turnhout, Belgium. It was raining at the time of the accident.

Oosting was about 30 minutes from his hometown of Son, the Netherlands, near Eindhoven, when he crashed.

"When Dutch tennis came up in the early '80s, he was one of four guys what helped put tennis on the map in the country," Dutch Davis Cup captain Michiel Schapers, a long-time friend of Oosting, said Tuesday in a statement.

Oosting played on the Dutch Davis Cup team from 1983-88, compiling a 7-4 record, including 5-3 in singles. He reached a career-high ranking of No. 72 in singles in 1988 and No. 20 in doubles in 1995.

He won the French Open mixed doubles title in 1994 with Kristie Boogert.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	9	2	.818	—
Miami	7	3	.700	1½
New York	7	3	.700	1½
Philadelphia	5	5	.500	3½
Washington	4	5	.444	4
Boston	3	5	.375	4½
New Jersey	2	8	.200	6½
Central Division				
Indiana	7	3	.700	—
Milwaukee	6	3	.667	½
Cleveland	5	4	.556	1½
Atlanta	6	5	.545	1½
Detroit	5	6	.455	2½
Toronto	3	6	.333	3½
Chicago	2	9	.182	5½
Charlotte	1	7	.125	5

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	9	1	.900	—
Minnesota	8	2	.800	1
Houston	7	4	.636	2½
San Antonio	5	6	.455	4½
Vancouver	4	6	.400	5
Dallas	3	9	.250	7
Denver	2	8	.200	7
Pacific Division				
Portland	6	2	.750	—
Seattle	7	3	.700	—
Phoenix	6	4	.600	1
L.A. Lakers	6	6	.500	2
Sacramento	5	5	.500	2
Golden State	5	6	.455	2½
L.A. Clippers	0	9	.000	6½

Spotlight on Big Mac, La Russa's 'racism'

JUPITER, Fla (AP) – Just in case Mark McGwire forgot what it was like, the spotlights are back on baseball's home run king.

He didn't even have to hit a home run. Just an announcement of his first news conference of the spring was enough to draw a mob today to the St. Louis Cardinals' training camp here.

"The notoriety he's gained, people want a piece of him," Cardinals general manager Walt Jocketty said Tuesday. "You'd be surprised at the unbelievable requests we get, from media and fans. They don't understand."

McGwire arrived in camp Monday, and his only misstep came when he missed a team party at a local restaurant to view his *Mad About You* episode. He apparently forgot about the back entrance the Cardinals had waiting for him and tried to go in the front door. When he saw TV cameras and fans waiting, McGwire turned around.

Cardinals camp was buzzing Tuesday, and McGwire didn't have anything to do with it. Former Cardinals outfielder Ron Gant, still angry at Tony La Russa, accused the St. Louis manager of racism, saying he treated black players differently.

"Rickey Henderson didn't like him, Royce Clayton didn't like him," Gant said in Clearwater, Florida. "He treated Ozzie Smith like dirt. Brian Jordan didn't like him. I don't know too many people who did like him."

When asked if there was any significance that all the players he mentioned were black, Gant responded: "Yeah, there is. If I'm not mistaken, I heard a month after the season they were trying to trade Ray (Lankford), too. You do the math."

"That's called unforgivable," La Russa said. "That's lower than cheap. But I'm not going to sue him. I'll turn the page."

Gant, traded to Philadelphia during the offseason, said that "if he can't control you as a player, if you're not a 'yes' player, he doesn't want you. If you have your own opinions, he doesn't want you."

La Russa wondered what else Gant accused him of. "Did he say anything about me kicking animals or robbing old ladies?" the manager said.

La Russa also fired back about Gant's lack of production. Gant struck out 162 times in 1997 and slumped again last season, needing a strong September to end up at .240 with 26 homers and 67 RBIs. In 382 games with the Cardinals during three seasons, he fanned 352 times.

"It was whiff, whiff, whiff," La Russa said. "I really hope he goes to Philly and whiffs for them like he whiffed for us, and we'll see what excuse he makes."

The biggest ruckus was in Tampa, where Jose Canseco failed to show on the voluntary reporting date for the Devil Rays. The mandatory date isn't until March 2.

"Yeah, it's irritating a little bit because he's such a big cog of the wheel," general manager Chuck LaMar said. "Jose's going to show up when Jose's ready. And I guess that's what bothers me the most.

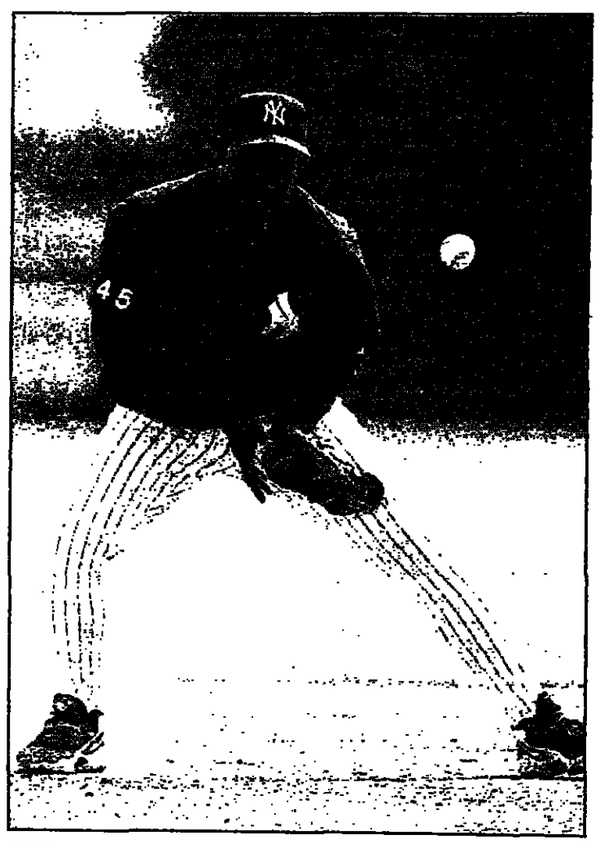
"If it was injury or visa problems or personal problems or irritation over a contract or a trade that just materialized, then that's one thing. But just to premeditatively not show up for a couple of days – if that's the case – is a different story."

At Fort Myers, the focus was on Boston shortstop Nomar Garciaparra, the undisputed team star following the departure of Mo Vaughn to Anaheim.

"I don't think anybody can take Mo's spot," Garciaparra said. "Everybody has the same personality they had.



HEAVY LUMBER – Cardinals' Mark McGwire gets ready to take batting practice. (Reuters)



WORKING OUT THE KINKS – Yankees DH and 1B Chili Davis bobbles a ball during infield practice. (Reuters)

Woods gears for first Match Play

CARLSBAD (AP) – With the flash of a smile, Tiger Woods spoke volumes about his anticipation of seeing Nick Faldo on the first tee and anyone else who may follow over the next few days of golf's Match Play Championship.

With one swing of the club, he showed why the smile isn't for show.

"Give me the driver," he said to Bryon Bell, a childhood friend who is caddying for him this week. "I've got a bet to settle." His eyes locked on a white truck beyond the mesh net at the back end of the driving range. Woods swung with all his might and watched the ball arc majestically into the blue skies north of San Diego and disappear over the fence.

"Give me another one," he said. This one sailed so far that no one was exactly sure where it landed – if it ever did. Woods let out an approving laugh, put his money in his pocket and walked off to the clubhouse.

"I have always enjoyed playing one-on-one," Woods said. "I have always enjoyed having a chance when a tournament comes down to a one-on-one situation. I love the feeling of that. In this sport, we don't get that chance very often."

The Andersen Consulting Match Play Championship, which began yesterday with the top 64 players in the world, brings match play back as an official event for the first time since the two-year Tucson experiment ended in 1985.

Only this will never be confused for Tucson or any other regular stop on any of the five tours behind the $5 million World Golf Championships.

Faldo vs. Woods.

"Knowing that you have got to go head-to-head with Nick Faldo ... that gets me pretty fired up," Woods said. "Doesn't matter what golf course I'm playing, I'll be excited." Woods hasn't looked this relaxed, hasn't smiled this wide since that Saturday afternoon at Augusta National two years ago when he was well on his way to a record, runaway victory in the Masters.

Woods is considered one of the best in America at match play, particularly since he won the US Amateur three years in a row.

He also beat Greg Norman 1-up in a meaningless singles match in the Presidents Cup in December.

And the past month has offered even more evidence why Woods has been gearing up for the Match Play Championship. He has played the past four weeks and showed that he's not quite ready to yield his No. 1 ranking to David Duval.

Match Play Pairing

Upper Bracket

Tiger Woods vs. Nick Faldo, Tom Watson vs. Bob Tway, Jesper Parnevik vs. Craig Parry, Payne Stewart vs. Stewart Cink, Vijay Singh vs. Rocco Mediate, Bernhard Langer vs. Brad Faxon, Nick Price vs. Frankie Minoza, Jeff Maggert vs. Fred Funk, Davis Love III vs. Steve Pate, Jeff Sluman vs. Brandt Jobe, Fred Couples vs. Dudley Hart, Scott Hoch vs. Ian Woosnam, Lee Westwood vs. Eduardo Romero, Greg Norman vs. John Cook, Phil Mickelson vs. Joe Ozaki, Lee Janzen vs. Glen Day.

Lower Bracket

David Duval vs. Stephen Leaney, Stuart Appleby vs. Bill Glasson, Darren Clarke vs. Andrew Magee, Brian Watts vs. Thomas Bjorn, Ernie Els vs. Paul Azinger, Hal Sutton vs. Loren Roberts, Justin Leonard vs. Miguel Angel Jimenez, Steve Stricker vs. Shigeki Maruyama, Mark O'Meara vs. Michael Bradley, Jose Maria Olazabal vs. Billy Mayfair, Steve Elkington vs. Steve Jones, Tom Lehman vs. Scott Verplank, Colin Montgomerie vs. Craig Stadler, John Huston vs. Bob Estes, Jim Furyk vs. Patrik Sjoland, Mark Calcavecchia vs. Carlos Franco.

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CRITICS' CHOICE

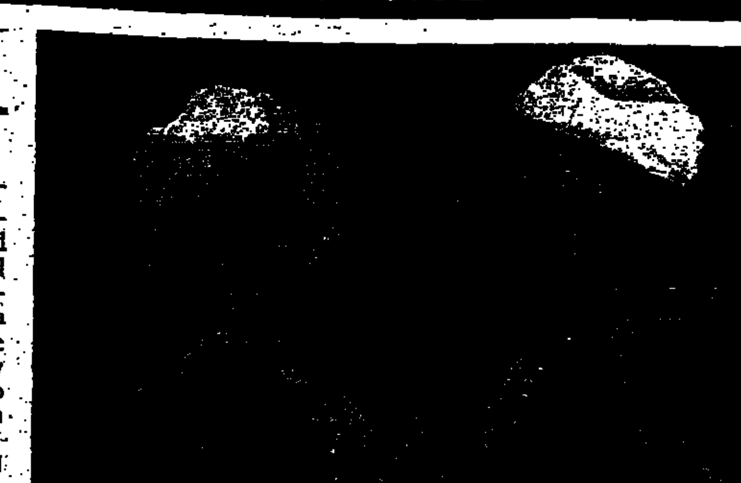
CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AIZENSTADT

The Moran Children's Choir and soloists perform Gil Shohat's good-tempered and tuneful opera *The Happy Prince*. The opera, which is fully staged, premiered to critical acclaim in 1997. Saturday at 11:11 a.m. at Tzavta in Tel Aviv.

The Concerto Platino early-music ensemble presents vocal and instrumental music from the 17th-century Italian and Austrian repertoire tonight at the Noga Theater in Jaffa, and Saturday at the Henry Crown Symphony Hall in Jerusalem at 8:30 p.m. The ensemble will present a concert lecture at the Jerusalem Music Center on Sunday at 8:30 p.m.

The Beethoven Piano Sonata series at the Israel Music Conservatory in Tel Aviv continues tomorrow at noon when Tomer Lev plays the composer's "Pathetique" sonata and Natasha Tadson plays the Opus 14 No. 1 and No. 2 sonatas.



Fiordiligi and Dorabella, the sparking heroines of Mozart's 'Cosi fan tutte,' the New Israeli Opera production, which opens on Saturday at the Tel Aviv Performing Arts Center at 8 p.m.

DANCE

RACHEL BELL

Students and soloists of the elegant masters of classical dance, the Bolshoi Ballet Academy of Moscow, perform a selection of dances from *Don Quixote*, *Swan Lake*, *The Nutcracker* and others. Tonight at the Jerusalem International Convention Center at 8:30.

ENGLISH THEATER

RACHEL BELL

Catch the last showing of the play *Open Secret*, "micro-theater" whose theme is the intimately personal meeting between man and God. The Passion Play is set to medieval Spanish songs translated into English and sung by the cast members of the Poor Man's Circus. Tonight at Jerusalem's Khan Theater at 8:30.

TV

■ CHANNEL 1 (11)

6:30 News flash
6:31 News in Arabic
6:45 Good Morning Israel

■ EDUCATIONAL TV

8:00 Apocalypse Then and Now
8:30 In Italiano
9:00 Dealing With Dogs
9:30 Psychology
10:00 Sesame Street
10:25 For the very young
11:00 Geography
12:00 History
13:00 Music
13:30 Hanni's Room

■ CHANNEL 1 (11)

15:30 Broken Heart High
16:15 Eli and Lily
16:30 Garden Party
16:59 A New Evening
17:35 Yaron and Other Animals
18:10 Time for Language
18:15 News in English

ARABIC PROGRAMS
18:30 News

HEBREW PROGRAMS
19:30 Election Special
20:25 Trump Card
21:00 News
22:30 August Snow (Hebrew, 1993) – an impossible love affair between a religious Ashkenazi girl and a secular Italian. With Rami Hoyberger and Avigail Areli
22:50 At the Right Pace
23:30 News
00:00 Time for Language

■ CHANNEL 2 (22)

5:45 Today's programs
5:55 On the Edge of the Shelf
6:00 The Rainbow Children
6:43 Morning with Gabi Gazit and Rivka Michaeli
9:00 Rivka Michaeli
9:55 Fall Guy
10:46 Ink
11:12 Guitar Festival
12:03 Anything But Love – The First Lady Sings the Blues
12:28 Jenny and the Captain
13:00 Woman's Angle
13:30 Kate and Allie
14:00 The Mommies
14:30 Sixth Order
15:00 Dave's World
15:27 Roseanne
16:00 The Bold and the Beautiful
16:50 Street Corner
17:00 Five with Gadi Sukenik
17:30 Open Cards
18:00 The World's Dumbest Criminals – part 2 (rpt)
18:10 Caroline
18:30 The Visitor
19:30 Election Diary '99
20:00 News
20:30 Only in Israel
21:30 Rafi Reshef
21:45 Ally McBeal
23:40 Dangerous Liaisons with Dana Modan
00:00 News
00:05 Dangerous Liaisons with Dana Modan – contd.
1:45 High Incident – part 3
2:29 Secret Service Guy – part 6: Throw Kessler off the Train
2:54 Night Song

■ JORDAN TV (31)

Broadcasts passages from the Koran and news until the end of the official 40-day mourning period (March 20) following the death of King Hussein.

■ MIDDLE EAST TV (24/27) (unconfirmed)

7:30 700 Club
8:00 TV Shopping
15:00 Buddy Buddy
15:30 The Bionic Six
16:00 Woody Woodpecker
16:30 White Fang
17:00 700 Club
17:30 Arabic News
18:00 CNN Entertainment
18:30 Coach
19:00 Wiseguy
20:00 Commish
20:50 Arabic Movie: The Best Days of My Life
22:35 Ed Sullivan Show
23:00 Late Show with David Letterman
00:00 TV Shopping
2:00 700 Club

CABLE

■ ITV 3 (33)

16:30 Dictator
17:30 From Day To Day
18:00 The Oppressed
19:00 News in Arabic
19:30 News in Russian
20:00 Great Mysteries & Myths
20:30 Telekessel
21:00 News
21:30 Cafe Theater
22:30 La femme d'à côté (French, 1981) – François Truffaut's romantic drama about a married man whose new neighbor is his ex-lover. With Gerard Depardieu

■ ETV 2 (23)

15:30 Life Skills
16:00 Hot Science
16:30 Sesame Street
17:00 Arabic Calligraphy
17:20 Look Around You
17:47 Data Bank
18:00 Destinos
18:30 Art Workshop
19:00 Apocalypse Then and Now
19:30 Vis-a-vis
19:50 Hello Prina
20:00 A New Evening
20:30 Golden Age
21:00 Access All Areas – Never Satisfied
22:00 In the Heat of the Night
22:45 Long Search

■ CHANNEL 3

6:30 Love Story with Yossi Syas (r)
7:00 The Tonight Show with Jay Leno (r)
7:30 Good Evening with Guy Pines (r)
8:10 Celeste
9:00 Falcon Crest
9:45 The Young and the Restless (r)
10:30 Days of Our Lives (r)
11:15 Forever Little Women
12:00 Barnaby Jones
12:45 Dallas
13:35 Newsradio
14:00 Bewitched
14:25 I Dream of Jeannie
14:50 Ricki Lake
15:35 Judge Judy
16:00 Forever Little Women
16:45 Days of Our Lives
17:30 Friends
18:00 Good Evening with Guy Pines
18:30 Local Broadcast
19:00 The Young and the Restless
19:40 Melrose Place
20:25 Cruel Doubt (1997), part 4 – minseries about a murder and the ensuing police investigation. With Blythe Danner, Matt McGrath, Adam Baldwin and Gwyneth Paltrow
21:10 Law and Order
22:00 Yair Lapid Live at 10
22:30 Seinfeld (r)
23:00 The Tonight Show with Jay Leno
23:45 Good Evening with Guy Pines
00:15 ER
1:05 Ghost Stories
1:50 Red Shoe Diaries
2:20 Sleepwalkers – reruns
3:10 Prey
4:00 Spy Game

■ MOVIE CHANNEL (4)

11:30 Fool's Paradise (1937) – romantic comedy about a bureaucrat who decides to embezzle foreign-aid funds for a small island republic. With Taylor Dayne
13:05 Fighting Father Dunne (1948) – one boy's attempts to procure supplies for homeless boys of St. Louis in 1905. With Pat O'Brien and Barry Fitzgerald
14:40 18 Minutes in Albuquerque (1994) – short comedy about an encounter between an introverted computer exec and a prostitute
15:10 Close to Danger (1996) – a typist for a well known writer turns to the police when he asks her to help him kill someone, but they refuse to take her seriously
16:50 Charles and Diana: A Palace Divided (1992) – With Roger Rees and Catherine Oxenberg
18:25 Heart of a Child (1994) – a pregnant woman carrying a fetus with a heart defect tries to get to the hospital for life-saving surgery and is hindered by a storm. With Ann Jillian and Michele Greene
20:00 Jane Eyre (1996) – Franco Zeffirelli's remake of Charlotte Bronte's classic with William Hurt and Charlotte Gainsbourg
22:00 From the Earth to the Moon (1998), part 4 – HBO mini-series produced by Tom Hanks about the American space program in the '60s and '70s
23:40 Lifebreath (1997) – thriller. A devoted husband looks for candidates for his terminally ill wife's organ transplant. With Luke Perry and Frances Swift
1:35 Petticoat Planet (1996) – erotic. A young man lands on a planet inhabited by women
2:35 Kill Me Again (1989, 92 mins.) – contemporary film noir about a beautiful con artist who steals gangster money and arranges to fake her own death. With Val Kilmer, Joanne Whalley and Michael Madsen

■ CHILDREN (6)

6:30 Cartoons
8:05 Simba, Jungle King
8:30 The Little Bits
9:00 Arthur
9:35 The Smurfs
10:00 Ninja Turtles
10:30 Batman
11:05 Dexter's Lab
11:35 Cow and Chicken
12:00 Flipper
13:00 Musty
13:10 Make Believe Closet
13:30 Simba, Jungle King
14:00 Sharky and George
14:30 Princess Sissi
15:05 The Smurfs
15:35 Ninja Turtles
16:00 Batman
16:40 Dexter's Lab
17:10 Life with Louie – Emmy award-winning comedy based on the character of stand-up comedian Louie Anderson, about a cynical eight-year-old and his family
17:35 Breaker High – new series about a high school run aboard a great ship
18:00 Prof. Science
18:10 Sliders
19:00 Moesha – reruns
19:30 Family Matters
19:55 Married with Children
20:20 Full House
20:40 The Fresh Prince of Bel Air (r)
21:10 Lois and Clark

■ SECOND SHOWING (6)

22:00 Out of the Past (1947) – classic film noir in which a young Robert Mitchum plays a reformed hood whose former gangster boss embroils him in murder and double-cross. Also stars Jane Greer, Kirk Douglas and Rhonda Fleming
23:40 Here Comes the Groom (1951, 108 mins.) – musical comedy by Frank Capra. A foreign correspondent in Paris hurries back to Boston following an ultimatum from his fiancée, complete with two adopted orphans to melt her heart. With Bing Crosby and Jane Wyman

■ CHANNEL 8

6:00 Open University (rpts from Wednesday at 23:30)
8:00 From Monkeys to Apes, part 3 (r)
8:30 Hunt for Amazing Treasures (r)
8:50 3,000 Mile Garden (r)
9:15 Peak Performance: Athletics (r)
9:40 Caravaggio: Painter and Murderer (r)
10:35 Michelangelo (r)
11:25 We Have No War Songs – Gypsies at an annual meet in France
12:20 A Little Exercise – opera by Darius Milhaud
12:40 World Discoveries (r)
13:10 Great Crimes and Trials (r)
13:40 Beyond 2000 (r)
14:00 A New World, Saving the Planet (r)
14:30 Karnak, a Hidden History (r)
15:20 Who Wrote the Bible?
16:10 Valley of Ancestors – the Nagorongoro nature reserve in East Africa and its resident Masai tribesmen
17:00 Open University: The Constitution; Innovators; Anxiety Disorders
19:00 World Discoveries, part 26: Lake Victoria
19:30 Great Crimes and Trials
20:05 Beyond 2000
20:30 A New World, Saving the Planet: part 11
21:00 Remember the Ugandan Asians – the story of Idi Amin, and his persecution of Ugandan Asians
21:55 Who Wrote the Bible? – series examining various questions about the holy book
22:45 Caravaggio: Painter and Murderer (r)
23:40 Open University: American Cinema; Greek Fire; Connection
1:40 World Discoveries (r)
2:10 Great Crimes and Trials (r)
2:35 Beyond 2000 (r)

■ STAR WORLD (18/15)

6:00 Big Easy (r)
7:00 Oprah Winfrey Show
8:00 Santa Barbara
9:00 The Bold and the Beautiful
9:30 Yan Can Cook
10:00 Snowy River, the McGregor Saga
11:00 Mysterious Island
11:30 Small Wonder
12:00 The Brittas Empire
12:30 World News
13:00 World Business Report
13:30 Home Improvement
14:00 41st Annual Grammy Awards
17:00 The Bold and the Beautiful
17:30 Home Improvement
18:00 41st Annual Grammy Awards
21:00 Home Improvement
21:30 Newhart
22:00 Brittas Empire
22:30 The Bold and the Beautiful
23:00 The Wonder Years
23:30 Mr. Belvedere
00:00 Aerobics Oz Style
00:30 World News
1:00 Home Improvement
1:30 Candid Camera
2:00 Aerobics Oz Style
2:30 The Brittas Empire

■ NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC (17/19)

6:00 On Hawaii's Giant Wave (r)
6:30 Mystery of the Inca Mummy (r)
7:00 CNBC – finance and business news and reports
13:00 A Passion for Africa (r)
14:00 Arabian Sands (r)
15:00 Antarctic Challenge – an attempt to climb a mountain in the Antarctic region
15:30 Diving with Seals – a look at the versatile animal that can live nearly anywhere
16:00 The Reserves (r)
16:30 Marathon Monks of Mount Hiei (r)
17:30 Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes (r)
18:30 Stratosfear (r)
19:00 On Hawaii's Giant Wave (r)
19:30 Mystery of the Inca Mummy (r)
20:00 Beeman – killer bees in Panama
20:30 Nuisance Alligators – the alligators of Florida
21:00 Colony Z – ethnology with penguins in New Zealand
21:30 Deep Diving with the Russians
22:30 In the Shadow of Vesuvius – lives of residents of Pozzouli in Italy under the threat of volcanic eruption
23:30 Among the Baboons – anthropologist Shirley Strum's study of baboons in Kenya
00:00 Legends of the Bushmen – folklore of the Namibian Bushmen
1:00 South Georgia: Legacy of Lust – the plight of wildlife on the island
2:00 Beeman (r)
2:30 Nuisance Alligators (r)

■ BBC WORLD (13/14)

News on the hour
6:30 USA Direct
7:30 Money Programme (r)
8:30 Talking Movies (r)
9:30 Hard Talk (r)
10:30 Money Programme
11:30 Hard Talk (r)
12:30 Holiday (r)
13:00 The World Today
14:30 Money Programme (r)
15:00 World News and Business Report
15:30 The World Today
16:30 Top Gear (r)
17:30 Hard Talk
18:30 Money Programme (r)
19:30 Talking Movies (r)
20:00 The World Today
21:30 Hard Talk (r)
22:30 Panorama
23:30 Radical Highs, part 4 – a glimpse at adrenaline-induced sporting thrills
00:10 Europe Direct
1:00 World News and Business Report
1:15 Asia Today (r)
2:30 Talking Movies (r)

■ CNN INTERNATIONAL (12)

News throughout the day
6:15 American Edition
6:30 World Report
7:00 CNN This Morning
7:30 Insight (r)
8:00 CNN This Morning
8:30 Moneyline (r)
9:00 CNN This Morning
9:30 World Sport
10:00 CNN This Morning
10:30 Showbiz Today
11:00 Larry King (r)
12:30 World Sport
13:15 American Edition
13:30 Biz Asia
14:30 Science and Technology
15:15 Asian Edition
15:30 World Report
16:30 Showbiz Today
17:30 World Sport
18:30 Travel Now
19:00 Larry King Live (r)
20:45 American Edition
21:30 World Business Today
22:30 Q&A with Riz Khan
23:00 News Europe
23:30 Insight (r)
00:00 World Business Today
00:30 World Sport
1:00 World View
1:30 Moneyline Newshour
2:30 Showbiz Today

■ SKY NEWS (14/13)

News on the hour
6:30 Fashion TV
7:30 CBS Evening News
8:00 Sunrise
12:30 Sky World News
13:30 Money
16:30 Your Call
18:30 Sky World News
19:00 Live at Five
21:30 Sportsline
22:30 Sky Business Report
23:30 Sky World News
00:00 Prime Time
2:30 CBS Evening News

■ CHANNEL 5 (05)

6:30 Bodies in Motion
16:00 Bodies in Motion
16:15 NBA (rpt)
17:45 Indoor Soccer
18:30 Israeli League Soccer
19:30 Sports News
20:00 English Cup Soccer
21:30 Boxing
22:30 Dutch League Soccer
00:00 European Champions League Soccer

■ EUROSPORT (15/16)

9:30 Soccer (rpt)
10:30 Nordic Skiing
11:30 Live Nordic Skiing
12:30 Alpine Skiing
13:30 Nordic Skiing
15:00 Nordic Skiing
16:00 Live Biathlon
17:15 Live Tennis – London
18:30 Nordic Skiing
19:00 Motorsports
19:30 Live Soccer – Italy vs Belgium
22:30 Live Soccer – Yugoslavia vs Spain
23:00 Soccer – The Netherlands vs Croatia
00:00 Athletics
1:00 Boxing
2:00 Motorsports

PRIME TIME TV

	1	2	3	4	6	8
19:30	Election Special	Election Diary '99	Melrose Place		Family Matters	Great Crimes and Trials
20:00		News		Jane Eyre	Married with Children	Beyond 2000
20:30	Trump Card	Only in Israel	Cruel Doubt		Full House; Fresh Prince of Bel Air	A New World
21:00	News		Law and Order		Lois and Clark	Remember the Ugandan Asians
21:30		Rafi Reshef; Ally McBeal				
22:00			Yair Lapid Live at 10	From the Earth to the Moon	Out of the Past	Who Wrote the Bible?
22:30	August Snow; At the Right Pace		Seinfeld			Caravaggio: Painter and Murderer
23:00			The Tonight Show with Jay Leno			

RADIO

■ VOICE OF MUSIC

6:05 Haydn: Andante and Variations in F minor; Donizetti: String Quartet in F minor; Piacentino: Flute Concerto in G
7:07 Respighi: Suite of Ancient Airs and Dances no 3; Paganini: Grand Sonata for Violin and Guitar; Wolf: Italian Serenade
8:05 Saint-Saens: Septet op 65; Fauré: Dolly Suite op 56; Debussy: Children's Corner (Huang)
9:05 Heinichen: "Why do the Nations" – psalm; Boccherini: String Quintet in F op 39/2; Hummel: Trumpet Concerto; Dvorak: Piano Quintet in A op 81; Brahms: Violin Concerto op 77; Sibelius: Symphony no 2 in D
12:00 Noon with Gideon Hod
14:06 Encore – Pavarotti sings Neapolitan songs
15:00 The Voice of Music Magazine
16:00 Telemann: Suite in G minor from "Der getraue Music-Meister"; Mozart: String Quartet in B flat K458 "The Hunt"; Beethoven: Sonata in E flat for Violin and Piano op 12/3; Rachmaninoff: Rhapsody on a Russian Theme for 2 Pianos; Kodaly: Sonatina for Cello and Piano; Brahms: String Quartet no 1 in C minor op 51/1
18:00 New CDs – Sharon Bessley, flute / Dajan Lagique, piano. Ravel: Kaddisch for Flute and Piano; Sheriff: Arabesque for Flute and Piano; Talmi: 3 Monologues for Solo Flute; Amzaleg: Hopelessness for Solo Flute; Braun: Apartment for Rent for Reader, Flute and Piano; Lagique: Variations on "Hava Nagila" for Flute and Piano; Schulhoff: Sonata for Flute and Piano (1927)
20:05 From the Recording Studio – Ina-Esther Joost, cello, and other artists. Bach: Suite no 1 in G for Solo Cello; Henze: Serenade for Solo Cello; Kopytman: Kaddish for Cello and Orchestra; Debussy: Sonata in D minor for Cello and Piano (Stemfeld)
21:00 Clouds, Celebrations and Sirens
23:00 Art of the Song – Songs by troubadours, Benda, Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, Schumann, Wagner, Ben-Shabtai and Finzi

■ RADIOWEST

CNN news on the hour followed by RadioWEST local news
6:00 Morning Drive with Marc Berman (until 9:00)
7:45 Sports Update
8:08 Lions Trust Financial Update
9:00 Morning Brunch with Teisha Bader
12:00 Head to Head with Charlie Levine and Dr. Tom Gumpel
13:00 Memory Lane
15:00 Afternoon Drive with Dr. G
17:45 Sports Update
18:00 Newsmakers with Mordechai Twersky
19:00 Oldies – Music and Trivia with Teisha Bader and Larry Gamliel
21:00 Staying Sane with Dr. Miriam Adahan
22:00 West Rock with Redbeard
1:00 Sleepless in Jerusalem with Aaron Katzman (until 3:00)

■ BBC WORLD SERVICE

6:00 The World Today
7:00 The World Today
8:00 The World Today
9:00 World News
9:15 Outlook
9:55 My Century
10:00 World News
10:05 From Our Own Correspondent
10:20 Off the Shelf: Captain Corelli's Mandolin
10:35 The Works
11:00 World News
11:05 Network
11:20 Andy Kershaw's World of Music
11:50 Sports Roundup
12:00 Newsdesk
12:30 Britain Today
12:45 Performance
13:00 Newsdesk
13:30 Assignment
14:00 World News
14:05 Outlook
14:45 Sports Roundup
15:00 Newshour
16:00 World News
16:05 The Works
16:30 Meridian (Books)
17:00 World News
17:05 Sports Roundup
17:15 Westway
17:30 The Greenfield Collection
18:00 World News
18:15 Insight
18:30 The Music Studio
18:45 The Lab
19:00 Europe Today
19:30 World Business Report
19:45 Sports Roundup
20:00 World News
20:15 Britain Today
20:30 Assignment
21:00 World News
21:05 The Works
21:30 From Our Own Correspondent
21:45 Off the Shelf: Captain Corelli's Mandolin
22:00 Newshour
23:00 World News
23:05 World Business Report
23:20 Britain Today
23:30 Meridian (Books)
00:00 World News

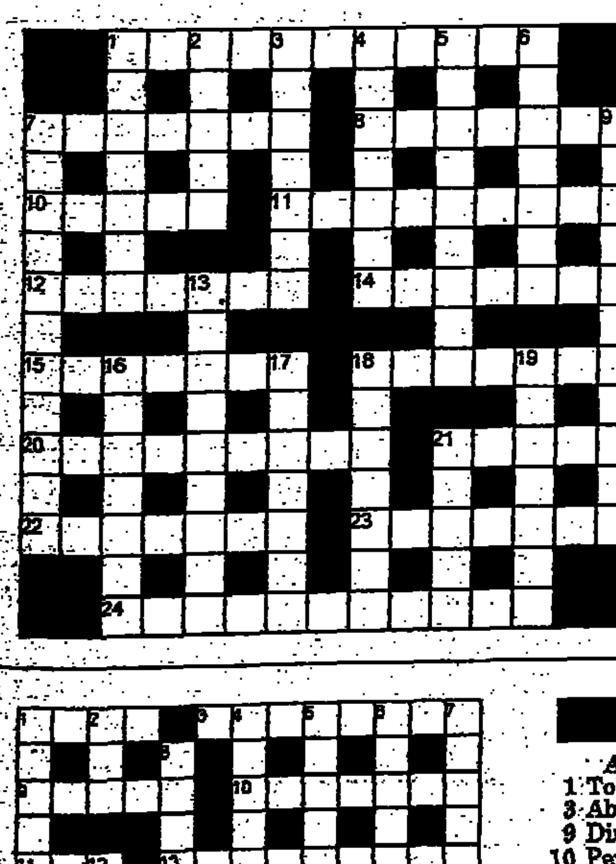
CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS

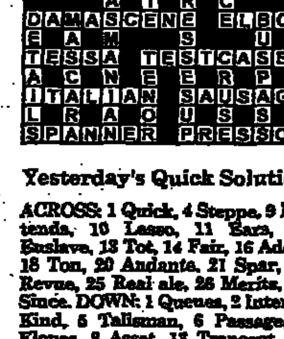
1 To relieve tension, hear recital performed (5,3,3)
7 Keep on being cheeky about little relative (7)
8 A small quantity of Latin? (7)
10 Soldiers returned, having no way settled to sleep (5)
11 No government supporter (9)
12 Some apprentice disgracefully led astray (7)
14 Perhaps English beach (7)
15 About to drink, to interrupt his spasms (7)
18 Curse pet with cowed air (7)
20 Causing annoyance by clumsiness? (9)
21 Blow oxygen with relish (5)
22 Point to good book, a typical example (7)
23 Adolescent period before one makes a score? (7)
24 So, man, hatter made you this? (3-1-7)

DOWN

1 Vehicle left—under cover here? (3,4)
2 An authoritative pronouncement from the dictionary (5)
3 Tedious routine? Come down to this county (7)
4 When these books are in service, sing praises (7)
5 A tonic did wonders for this craving (9)
6 Like grandpa in chair, or youngster playing music? (7)
7 Doorman takes home steak (11)
9 Pantomime gets the bird (6,5)
13 Space for tennis? Hold trial here (9)
16 Plausible arguer makes a Conservative's suit fall apart (7)
17 Trembles and smashes (7)
18 Meal excellent—ate out (4,3)
19 Praised for beating depression (7)
21 Big fireplace, we hear (5)



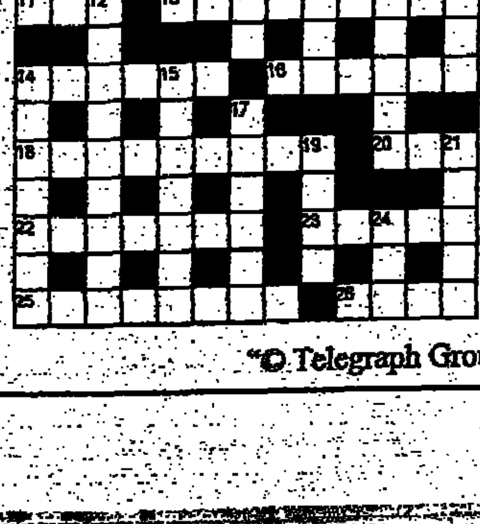
SOLUTIONS



Yesterday's Quick Solution

ACROSS: 1 Quick, 4 Steppe, 9 Extends, 10 Lasso, 11 Ears, 12 Enslave, 13 Tot, 14 Fair, 16 Aden, 18 Ton, 20 Andante, 21 Spar, 24 Revue, 25 Real ale, 26 Merits, 27 Since. DOWN: 1 Queues, 2 Inter, 3 Kind, 5 Talisman, 6 Passage, 7 Elopes, 8 Asset, 13 Transept, 15 Andover, 17 Marram, 18 Tears, 19 Grieve, 22 Plain, 23 Bass.

QUICK CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1 To recognize (4)
3 Absurdity (8)
9 Directed (5)
10 Permitted (7)
11 Moose (3)
13 Bad dream (9)
14 Rogue, knave (6)
16 Michaelmas daisies (6)
18 Womaniser (6,3)
20 Nervous twitch (3)
22 Dampen (7)
23 Area of Kent & Sussex (5)
25 On monthly wage (8)
26 Bygone (4)

DOWN

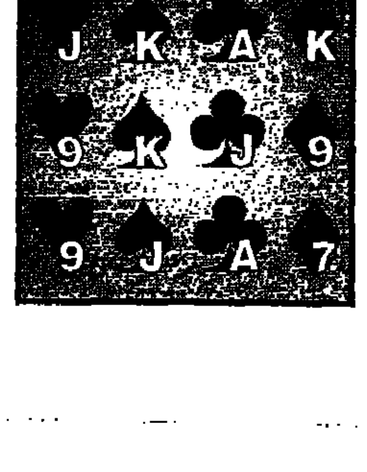
1 Court card (5)
2 Unit of electrical resistance (3)
4 Citrus fruit (6)
5 Hails (7)
6 Paper-shop (9)
7 Eternal (7)
8 Norse god (4)
12 Pedestrian safety rules (4,5)
14 Quantities (7)
15 Voter (7)
17 —— honorable: public apology (6)
19 Amphibian (4)
21 Younger son (5)
24 —— Khan (3)

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MOVIES

JERUSALEM
CINEMATHEQUE Ronin 5 • Husbands and Wives 7:30 • The Truman Show∞Notorious 9:30 **G.G. GIL** Jerusalem Mall (Malha) ☎ 6788448 Dangerous Acts∞Affliction∞Elizabeth 4:30, 7:15, 10 • Prince of Egypt 4:30, 7:15, 10 • You've Got Mail 4:30, 7:15, 10 • Meet Joe Black 9:30 • ANTZ 4:30, 7:15 • Lolita∞The Negotiator 4:30, 7:15, 10 **JERUSALEM THEATER** The Milky Way 7, 9:30 • Washington Square 7, 9:30 **RAV CHEN 1-7** ☎ 6792799 Credit Card Reservations ☎ 6794477 Rav-Mecher Building, 19 Ha'oman St., Talpiot The Waterboy∞Rush Hour 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Thin Red Line 6:15, 9:30 • Life is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Enemy of the State 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 • Little Voice 5, 7:30, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 9:45 **MEVASSERET ZION G.G. GIL** ☎ 5700868 Enemy of the State 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Stepmom 7:15, 10 • The Magic Sword 4:45 **SMADAR** ☎ 5618188 Happiness 7:30 • Black Cat White Cat 5, 10
TEL AVIV
DIZENGOFF Lolita 11 a.m., 2, 4:45, 7:30, 10 • Central Station 11 a.m., 1, 3:15, 5:30, 7:30, 10 • Sliding Doors 1, 5:30, 10 • Character *(Dutch, Hebrew subtitles)* 11 a.m., 3:15, 7:30 **GAT** ☎6967888 Thin Red Line 3:30, 6:30, 9:30 **GLOBUS** ☎6081130/1 Prince of Egypt∞You've Got Mail∞ANTZ 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 • Elizabeth 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:45, 7:15 • The Negotiator 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:45 • Meet Joe Black 11:30 a.m., 2:45, 6, 9:30 • Head On 7:30, 10 • Paulie 11:30 a.m., 2, 5 • Small Soldiers 11:30 a.m., 2, 5 **G.G. HOD 1–4** ☎ 5226226 Hod Passage, 101 Dizengoff St. Dangerous Acts∞The Truman Show 5, 7:30, 10 • Ronin∞The Big Lebowski 5, 7:30, 10 **LEV** ☎5288288 Black Cat White Cat 11:45 a.m., 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Velvet Goldmine 12 noon, 2:30, 7:30, 10 • Happiness 12 noon, 4, 7, 9:45 • Girls' Night 12:30, 5 • The Dream Life of Angels 2:45, 7:30, 9:45 • Hana-Bi Sat. 1:30; Sun-Wed. 5 **LEV AVIV** ☎6417148 Black Cat White Cat∞Girls Night 7:30, 10 • The Dream Life of Angels∞Hana-Bi 7:30, 10 • Nights of Cabiria 7:30 • Velvet Goldmine 10 **LIMOR** ☎6968084 The Mighty 6 • The Shall We Dance 8 • Forbidden Love 10 **G.G. PE'ER** ☎5442141 You've Got Mail∞Affliction∞Dangerous Acts 5, 7:30, 10 • Elizabeth 4:45, 7:15, 10 • The Negotiator 7:15, 10 • ANTZ Fri. 5 **RAV-CHEN** ☎ 5282288 Dizengoff Circle The Waterboy∞Rush Hour 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer∞The Siege 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Stepmom∞ Enemy of the State 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 **RAV-OR 1-5** ☎ 5102674 Opera House Love At Second Glance∞Life Is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Little Voice∞There's Something About Mary 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Next Stop Wonderland 5, 7:30, 9:45
HAIFA
CINEMA CAFE AMAMI ☎8325755 Sliding Doors 7:15, 9:30 • Character 7:15, 9:30 **CINEMATHEQUE** ☎8383424 Hana-Bi 6 • Planet Blue 12 midnight **MORIAH** ☎ 8242477 Happiness 7:15, 9:30 **ORI** ☎8500056 Prince of Egypt 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Elizabeth 4:30, 7:15, 10 • Got Mail 4:45, 7:15, 10 • The Truman Show 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Lolita 7:15, 10 • Meet Joe Black 9:30 • ANTZ 4:45, 7:15 • The Negotiator 4:30, 7:15, 10 **PANORAMA** ☎8382020 Lolita 4:15, 7, 9:30 • You've Got Mail 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Central Station 4:30 7, 9:30 • ANTZ 11 a.m., 4:30 • Paulie∞Small Soldiers 11 a.m., 4:30 **RAV-CHEN** ☎8500055 I Still Know What You Did Last Summer∞Rush Hour 4:45, 7:15, 9:30 • Enemy of the State 4:30, 7, 9:30 • The Siege 4:45, 7:15, 9:30 • There's Something About Mary 4:45, 7:15, 9:30 **RAV-GAT 1-2** ☎ 8674311 Thin Red Line 6, 9:15 • Love At Second Glance 7:15, 9:30 **RAV-MOR 1-7** ☎ 8416898 Thin Red Line 6, 9 • The Waterboy∞Rush Hour 5, 7:15, 9:30 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 4:45, 7, 9:30 • Little Voice 5, 7, 9:30 • Enemy of the State 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Life is Beautiful 4:45, 7, 9:30 **RAV-OR 1-3** ☎ 8246553 The Waterboy 5, 7:15, 9:30 • Little Voice 5, 7:15, 9:30 • Life is Beautiful 4:45, 7, 9:30
AFULA
RAV CHEN ☎8424047 The Waterboy∞Rush Hour 7:15, 9:30 • Life is Beautiful 7:15, 9:30
ARAD
STAR ☎9950904 Rush Hour∞I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 10 • The Siege 5, 7:30, 10
ASHDOD
G.G. GIL ☎ 8647202 You've Got Mail∞ANTZ 5, 7:30, 10 • Meet Joe Black 6, 9:30 • The Gingerbread Man∞Under Heaven 7:30, 10 • Paulie∞The Mousehunt 5 **RAV CHEN** ☎8661120 The Waterboy∞Rush Hour∞There's Something About Mary 5, 7:30, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 9:45 • The Siege 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Enemy of the State 4:45, 7:15, 9:45
ASHKELON
G.G. GIL ☎ 6729977 You've Got Mail∞ANTZ 5, 7:30, 10 • Sliding Doors 7:30, 10 • The Negotiator 7:15, 10 • Meet Joe Black 6, 9:30 • The Magic Sword∞Paulie *(Hebrew dialogue)* 5 **RAV CHEN** ☎6711221 The Waterboy 5, 7:30, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Rush Hour∞There's Something About Mary 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Enemy of the State 4:45, 7:15, 9:45
BAT YAM
RAV CHEN ☎5531077 The Waterboy∞Rush Hour 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Lolita 4:30, 7, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 9:45 • You've Got Mail∞Life is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Enemy of the State 4:45, 7:15, 9:45
BEERSHEBA
G.G. ORI ☎6103111 You've Got Mail 5, 7:30, 10 • The Truman Show 5, 7:30, 10 • Meet Joe Black 9:30 • ANTZ 5, 7:30 • Central Station 5, 7:30, 10 **RAV-NEGEV 1-4** ☎6235278 Thin Red Line 6:15, 9:30 • The Waterboy∞Rush Hour 5, 7:30, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 9:45
EILAT
EILAT CINEMA The Waterboy 7:30, 10 • Rush Hour 7:30, 10 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 7:30, 10 **GIL** ☎6340182 You've Got Mail 5, 7:30, 10 • Meet Joe Black 9:30 • The Negotiator 10 • ANTZ 5, 7:30
HADERA
LEV ☎6343555 Rush Hour∞Girls Night 5, 7:30, 10 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 10 • Enemy of the State 10 • Small Soldiers 5, 7:30 • ANTZ 5
HERZLIYA
COLONY ☎6902666 Thin Red Line 6:30, 9:30 • Life is Beautiful 5:30, 7:30, 10 **DANIEL** ☎ 9544044 Black Cat White Cat 7:30, 10 **STAR** ☎ 9589068 Thin Red Line 6:45, 9:45 • Rush Hour 5, 7:30, 10 • You've Got Mail 7:30, 10 • ANTZ 5 • Small Soldiers 5
HOD HASHARON
GIL ☎ 7408591 Thin Red Line 6, 9:30 • Washington Square 10 • ANTZ 5, 7:30 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 10 • You've Got Mail 5, 7:30, 10
HOLON
GLOBUS The Waterboy∞Rush Hour 5, 7:30, 10 • Thin Red Line 6, 9:30 • Lolita 7:15, 10 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 10 • ANTZ 5, 7:30 • You've Got Mail 5, 7:30, 10 **STAR** I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 7:30, 10 • The Siege 10 • Stepmom 7:15 • Sliding Doors 7:30, 10 • Enemy of the State 7:30, 10
KARMIEL
CINEMA ☎9882521 The Waterboy∞Rush Hour 7:15, 9:30 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 7:15, 9:30
KFAR SAVA
G.G. GIL ☎7677370 Prince of Egypt∞The Waterboy∞Rush Hour 5, 7:30, 10 • Elizabeth 4:45, 7:15, 10 • You've Got Mail 5, 7:30, 10 • Lolita 4:30, 7:15, 10 • Life is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 10 •
KIRYAT BIALIK
G.G. GIL ☎8779877 Dangerous Acts 7, 9:30 • Lolita 7, 9:30 • You've Got Mail 7, 9:30 • Stepmom 7, 9:30 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer∞Enemy of the State 7, 9:30 • The Siege∞There's Something About Mary 7, 9:30 • Meet Joe Black 7, 9:30 • ANTZ 7
KIRYAT SHMONA
G.G. GIL ☎6905080 Meet Joe Black 6, 9:30 • The Siege∞You've Got Mail 4:30, 7, 9:30
NAHARIYA
G.G. GIL You've Got Mail 5, 7:30, 10 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 10
UPPER NAZARETH
G.G GIL ☎6561332 I Still Know What You Did Last Summer∞Rush Hour 4:30, 7, 9:30 • The Siege∞There's Something About Mary 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Washington Square 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Meet Joe Black 6, 9:30 • Enemy of the State 4:15, 7, 10
NESS ZIONA
G.G. GIL 1-4 ☎ 9404729 Elizabeth 4:45, 7:15, 10 • There's Something About Mary 5, 7:30, 10 • You've Got Mail 5, 7:30, 10 • Lolita 7:15, 10 • ANTZ 5
NETANYA
G.G. GIL 1-5 ☎ 8628452 Dangerous Acts∞The Truman Show 5, 7:30, 10 • You've Got Mail∞Central Station 5, 7:30, 10 • Lolita 4:30, 7:15, 10 **RAV CHEN** ☎ 8618570 Thin Red Line 6:15, 9:30 • The Waterboy∞Rush Hour 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Life is Beautiful 7:30, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5
OR AKIVA
RAV CHEN☎ 6262758 The Waterboy∞Rush Hour Fri. 8, 10:15; 7:15, 9:30 • Life is Beautiful 7, 9:30
OR YEHUDA G.G. GIL 1-4 ☎ 5333292 Meet Joe Black 9:30 • Washington Square∞Sliding Doors∞The Truman Show 7:30, 10
PETAH TIKVA
G.G. GIL 1-6 ☎ 9087989 The Waterboy 5, 7:30, 10 • Thin Red Line 6, 9:30 • You've Got Mail∞Life is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 10 • Something About Mary 5, 7:30, 10 • Lolita 4:30, 7:15, 10 **G.G. HECHAL** ☎ 9317374 Rush Hour Fri. 10, 12:30 a.m.; Sat. 7:30, 10; Sun-Wed. 5, 7:30, 10 • Enemy of the State 4:45, 7:15, 10 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 10
RA'ANANA
PARK ☎ 7711321 Thin Red Line 6:45, 9:45 • Rush Hour∞I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 10:15 • Happiness 7:15, 10 • Stepmom 5, 7:30 • Life is Beautiful 10:15 **RA'ANAN** The Waterboy 5, 7:30, 10:15 • Lolita 5, 7:30, 10:15 • You've Got Mail∞The Siege∞Little Voice 5, 10:1
RAMAT GAN
RAV-GAN 1-4 ☎ 6197121 The Waterboy∞Rush Hour 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Life is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 9:45 **RAV-OASIS 1-3** ☎ 6730687 Thin Red Line 6:15, 9:30 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer∞You've Got Mail 6:15, 9:30
RAMAT HASHARON
KOKHAV ☎ 5491979 Lolita 4:30, 7, 9:30
REHOVOT
CHEN ☎ 9352868 Lolita 7, 9:45 • Little Voice 7:30, 9:45 • Central Station 7:15, 9:45 • Character 7:15, 9:45 **RAV MOR** ☎ 9493595 The WaterboyRush Hour 5, 7:30, 9:45 • You've Got Mail∞Life is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Enemy of the State 4:45, 7:15, 9:45
RISHON LEZION GIL 1-3 ☎ 9500785 You've Got Mail 5, 7:30, 10 • Central Station 7:30, 10 • The Negotiator 7:15, 10 • Small Soldiers 5 • ANTZ 5 **HAZAHAV** ☎ 9514968 Prince of Egypt 5, 7:30, 10 • The Waterboy∞Rush Hour 5, 7:30, 10 • You've Got Mail∞Life is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 10 **RAV CHEN** ☎ 9670504 Thin Red Line 6:15 • The Waterboy∞Rush Hour 5, 7:30, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5 • Life is Beautiful 7:30, 9:45 **STAR** ☎ 9619985 I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 7:30, 10 • The Siege 10 • There's Something About Mary 11:30 a.m., 5 • Stepmom 7:15 • Sliding Doors 7:30, 10 • Enemy of the State 7:30, 10
SHOHAM
STAR ☎ 9793834 The Siege 7:15, 9:45 • Sliding Doors 7:15, 9:45 • Enemy of the State 7:15, 9:45
YEHUD
RAV CHEN ☎5367910 The Waterboy∞Rush Hour 5, 7:30, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Life is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 9:45

All times are p.m. unless otherwise indicated. Telephone reservations (credit card) can be made for Golan Globus (G.G.) cinemas at 1-700-50-50-50



Boston pop



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Losin' Lakers



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Sports Editors: Joe Hoffman & Ori Lewis

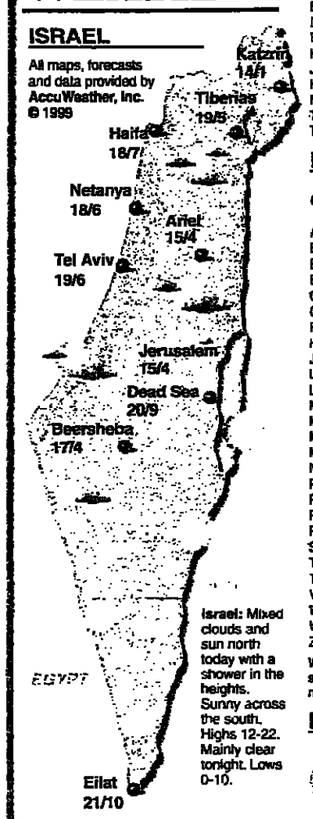
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ISRAEL



ISRAEL CITIES

City	Today High C/F	Today Low/W C/F	Friday High C/F	Friday Low/W C/F
Ariel	15/59	4/39/pc	16/61	4/39/s
Beersheba	17/62	4/39/pc	17/62	6/43/s
Dead Sea	20/68	9/48/pc	20/68	9/48/s
Eilat	21/70	10/50/s	21/70	10/50/s
Haifa	18/64	7/44/pc	17/62	5/41/s
Jerusalem	15/59	4/39/pc	15/59	4/39/s
Katzrin	14/57	1/34/pc	16/61	0/32/s
Netanya	18/64	6/43/pc	17/62	5/41/s
Tel Aviv	19/66	6/43/pc	17/62	6/43/s
Tiberias	19/66	5/41/pc	21/70	5/41/s

INTERNATIONAL CITIES

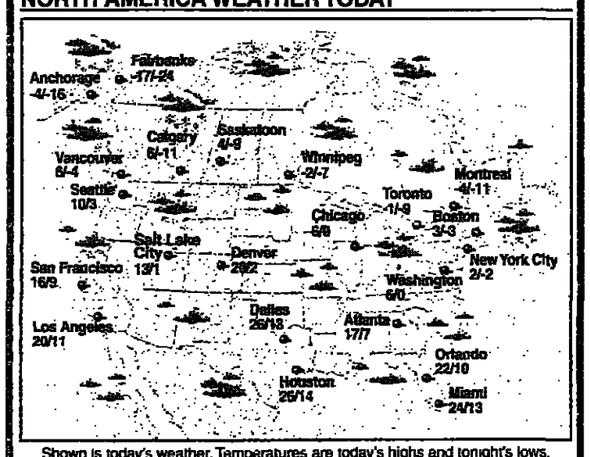
City	Today High C/F	Today Low/W C/F	Friday High C/F	Friday Low/W C/F
Amsterdam	6/43	5/41/c	11/52	6/43/r
Beijing	14/57	4/39/pc	12/53	-6/22/pc
Berlin	2/35	0/32/pc	6/43	6/43/sn
Brussels	7/44	5/41/pc	12/53	7/44/sh
Cairo	21/70	9/48/s	19/66	7/44/pc
Chicago	6/43	0/32/pc	8/46	1/34/pc
Frankfurt	1/34	-2/29/pc	3/37	3/37/sn
Hong Kong	23/73	18/64/s	23/73	19/66/pc
Johannesburg	29/84	16/61/s	30/86	17/62/s
London	8/46	6/43/c	12/53	3/37/sh
Los Angeles	20/68	11/52/c	22/71	9/48/pc
Madrid	9/48	6/43/r	14/57	4/39/c
Mexico City	23/73	9/48/pc	23/73	9/48/pc
Montreal	-4/25	-11/13/c	-1/31	-8/18/pc
Moscow	-1/31	-8/18/c	-4/25	-8/18/sn
New York	2/35	-2/29/sf	6/43	-1/31/sf
Paris	6/43	2/35/pc	11/52	4/39/sh
Prague	0/32	-4/25/pc	5/41	2/35/c
Rio de Janeiro	33/91	24/75/t	28/82	23/73/pc
Rome	14/57	4/39/sh	13/55	5/41/s
Sydney	21/70	19/66/r	20/68	19/66/r
Tokyo	13/55	6/43/s	13/55	11/52/pc
Toronto	-1/31	-9/16/sf	-1/31	-4/25/pc
Vienna	4/39	-2/29/pc	6/43	4/39/c
Warsaw	-1/31	-8/22/sf	1/34	-1/34/sn
Washington	6/43	0/32/sf	8/46	0/32/c
Zurich	3/37	-2/29/pc	7/44	4/39/sh

Weather (W) s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

MOON PHASES

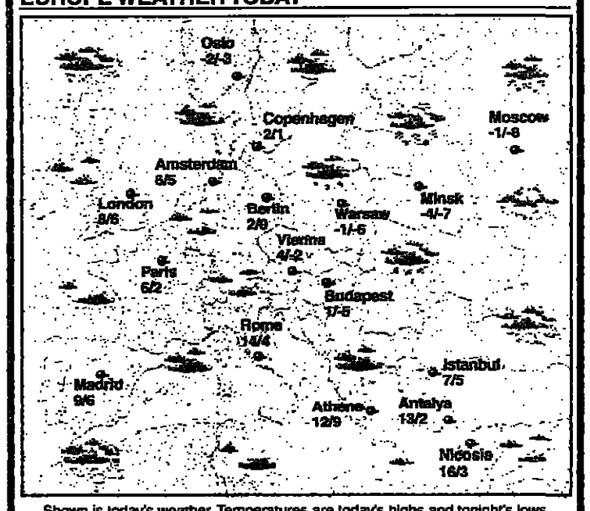
Full	Last	New	First
Mar 2	Mar 10	Mar 17	Mar 24

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EL AL Weekends

Israel stroll to 2-0 win over Latvia

By ORI LEWIS

A solid first half by Israel was enough for the host team to overcome Latvia by 2-0 in a friendly soccer international at Teddy Stadium last night.

The Latvians had difficulty matching the pace of Israel in the first 45 minutes with Haim Revivo marshalling the midfield with a calm assuredness and displaying some excellent ball distribution. Revivo was the first to have a go at the Latvian goal when his shot went over the bar after 12 minutes. Eleven minutes later he netted Israel's first goal when a high cross from the left by Tal Banin found him unmarked on the right corner of the box. He chested the ball down and drilled it between the legs of goalkeeper Aleksandrs Kolinko's and into the net.

Four minutes later, Revivo turned provider when he found striker Ronnen Harazi with his back to the goal. Harazi reiterated Israel's dominance when he turned and netted the ball, which took a deflection off Oleg Blagonadezdins.

Revivo might have added another goal two minutes later as Israel swept all in their path, but he shot straight at Kolinko from close range.

Latvia came closest to scoring in the 31st minute when captain Vladimirs Babicevs hit a thunderous free kick from 20 meters which rebounded off Nir Davidovich's right post.

The second half was only a pale imitation of the first as Israel coach Shlomo Scharf played all eight substitutes. Israel used the match as preparation for the upcoming European Championship qualifying Group 5 clash with Cyprus at the National Stadium on March 28. There were only two shots at goal in the second half as the 6,000 crowd preferred to amuse itself with firecrackers in the stands."

I was much more pleased with our first-half performance," said Scharf. "I was particularly happy with Tal Banin. It was very important to see him back at full fitness and in the side," he added.

Banin, Israel's captain, who plays for Italian Serie B side Brescia, has recently returned to full fitness and was a last-minute addition to the squad after arriving from Italy late on Tuesday. He played the full 90 minutes.

The match was played in a generally sporting manner, but the Latvians, who were out for revenge after the 5-1 drubbing Israel handed them in Riga last May came up second best. They were far from the potential threat which Israel might have expected following their 3-1 away win over Norway and 1-0 home victory over Georgia in Euro 2000 qualifying this season.

On last night's performance it is hard to understand just how they could have achieved those results. They lacked any playmaking skills in midfield and even their star player, Marians Pahars, who is about to move to Southampton, failed to shine while his future manager, Dave Jones, watched in the stands.



THREADING THE NEEDLE – Israel's Haim Revivo (r) maneuvers between two Latvia defenders. Revivo scored Israel's first goal in the 2-0 win at Teddy Stadium last night. (Brian Hendler)

'Waugh and Warne should have been suspended'

MELBOURNE (AP) – Australians Shane Warne and Mark Waugh should have been suspended for their involvement with an illegal Indian bookmaker, according to an inquiry called by the Australian Cricket Board.

Warne and Waugh were fined after admitting selling pitch and weather information to an Indian bookie they met on a tour of Sri Lanka in 1994.

The fines were kept secret by the ACB, a move criticized by its own bribery inquiry yesterday.

Lawyer Rob O'Regan, who undertook the two-month inquiry for the ACB, said the board should have made the fines public at the time and should have suspended the pair.

"I'm pleased to report never did I hear any suggestion of match-fixing or a player failing to play on his merits," O'Regan said.

ACB chief executive Mal Speed, who joined the board after the fines were handed down, admitted it had been too lenient. "With hindsight I think we can look back on these penalties and say yes, perhaps they should have been harsher penalties," Speed said.

Waugh and Warne have accused former Pakistan captain Salim Malik of offering them bribes to throw a match on the 1994 tour of Pakistan.

O'Regan said he was puzzled at how the ACB did not link Waugh and Warne's involvement with the Indian bookmaker to the Malik bribery scandal.

"I came to the conclusion that there was a distinct possibility of a connection between the two matters," O'Regan said. "I don't know how the ACB concluded they were separate." O'Regan said he interviewed 64 people and felt his report was conclusive.

In handing down his finding, he said Warne and Waugh had lamentably failed to set the sort of example one might expect from senior players.

"I do not think it is possible to explain their conduct away as the result of merely naivety or stupidity," wrote O'Regan.

"They must have known that it is wrong to accept money from and supply information to, a bookmaker whom they also knew as someone who bet on cricket."

The report also revealed that Waugh was warned by an unnamed senior teammate in 1994 to stop providing information to a bookmaker yet continued to do so until 1995.

Australian skipper Allan Border was approached by an ex-Pakistani cricketer during the 1993 Ashes tour in England and told both he and the team would be financially looked after if it lost the sixth Test, which it did.

Border rejected the approach but failed to tell team management – manager Des Rundle learned of the approach only during the inquiry.

The report recommended no further action be taken against Waugh and Warne.

Tour selectors rapped for all-white teams

South Africa's touring team selectors in New Zealand have been criticized by their cricket chiefs in Johannesburg for fielding two all-white sides.

The South African teams for limited overs internationals in Christchurch and Auckland last Wednesday and Saturday did not include players of color, as stipulated in the United Cricket Board of South Africa's new selection guidelines.

"Owing to a misunderstanding, the Board's policy was not complied with, to the consternation of the UCB," said a statement signed by UCB president Ray White.

Asian Test Championship

India were 351 for three at the close on the first day of their Asian Test Championship match against Sri Lanka in Colombo yesterday.

Spain's height too much for national hoopsters

By ELI GRONER

Size does matter. The National Basketball team gave a good overall effort, but total domination in the paint at the hands of Spain prevented the Israelis from seriously threatening the hosts, en route to a 71-63 loss in Madrid last night.

The Spaniards rode their tremendous height advantage to the victory, utilizing offensive rebounds for numerous second- and third-chance opportunities throughout the game.

Overall, Spain grabbed 41 rebounds, including 16 on the offensive end. The Israelis managed just 20 boards. "Our helplessness under the boards killed us," said Maccabi Ra'anana center and leading scorer Tomer Steinhauer (18 points).

In addition, the Spaniards were able to either score inside, or at least earn a trip to the charity stripe with regularity. Whenever the Spanish squad needed to score, it pushed the ball inside, to either Roberto Duenas (16 points) or Alfonso Reyes, who tallied 10 points. The twin towers forced the significantly smaller Israelis to collapse their defense, opening up numerous wide-open, high-percentage shots for the Spanish perimeter players.

The loss drops the Israelis to 6-3 in the European Championships Qualifiers, while Spain improved to a perfect 9-0. Both teams have already clinched spots in the Championships, to take place in France in July.

Aside from Israel's inferiority in the paint, there were several positive things to come out of last night's game. First of all, there is no question that the Israeli backcourt can compete with Europe's finest. Playing without starters Oded Katash and Doron Sheffer – who are nursing minor injuries – Guy Goodes and Amir Katz stepped in and didn't miss a beat. Goodes scored Israel's first eight points and 12 overall, displaying an offensive aggressiveness that has been sorely absent in recent years. And Katz, once again, silenced his critics who said he couldn't compete at the top European level, by tallying 16 second-half points on 4-of-7 three-point shooting.

Muli Katzurin's squad didn't panic either. Despite weathering separate 13-0 and 11-0 runs in the first half, the Israelis battled back to the point where they were only down 69-63 with 40 seconds remaining. Despite playing a road game against a quality opponent without its starting backcourt, the Israelis refused to fold and turned what could have been a laugher into a relatively close contest.

Unfortunately for the Israelis, heart isn't counted in height, and unless something drastic happens, Israel can look forward to a summer in France replete with respectable losses like last night's.

Spurs, Magpies win FA Cup replays

LONDON (AP) – Two goals in eight minutes by Darren Anderton and David Ginola steered League Cup finalist Tottenham into the quarterfinal of the FA Cup yesterday in a 2-0 victory over Leeds United.

England winger Anderton fired Spurs ahead in the 60th minute of Wednesday's fifth round replay at White Hart Lane and Ginola added the second in the 68th. The two teams had tied 1-1 at Elland Road 11 days ago.

Spurs visit division one Barnsley for a place in the FA Cup semifinal.

In other fifth round replays, Newcastle, last season's losing finalist, triumphed 1-0 at Blackburn, and Derby came from behind to down Division One Huddersfield 3-1 at Pride Park.

French forward Louis Saha, starting in place of ill-stricken Alan Shearer, fired Newcastle's winner at Ewood Park and Rund Gullit's team will face Everton in the quarterfinal.

Chris Beech gave Huddersfield a surprise 15th-minute lead against Derby, but the home team hit back with a 30-yard strike by veteran defender Tony Dorigo in the 34th and two goals by Francesco Baiano in the 73rd and 82nd.

Revised quarter-final draw: Saturday, March 6: Newcastle United v Everton, Barnsley v Tottenham Hotspur, Arsenal v Derby County. Sunday, March 7: Manchester United v Chelsea.



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